

Broomfield Hill

1. My master and I both a wager we did lay
Ten thousand bright guineas unto one,
That a maid I couldn't go to the bonnie bloomin bush
And a maid I should never home return.
2. As soon as she got down to the bonnie bloomin bush
She found her true love fast asleep
With his nag in his hand and his bridle so brown
And his whipstick lay all upon the ground.
3. Three times she did walk round the crown of his head
Three times to the sole of his feet
Three times did she kiss of his red and rosy lips
As he lay there all fast asleep.
4. As soon as he woke all out of his sleep
And found his true love had been.
He stamped and he swore and his own hair he tore
Saying 'My true love's been here but she's gone'.

If thou didst sleep more at night
Thou wouldst sleep less by day
Thoust been awake when your true love had been here
An a maid she's never went away.'

Source: Sung by Arthur Nightingale, Didbrook. Collected by James Madison Carpenter between 1927 and 1935.

Notes: Carpenter noted the words, but no tune.