

The Jealous Brother

The image shows a musical score for the song 'The Jealous Brother'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The melody is simple and uses a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. The lyrics are: 'Come all you loy - al lov - ers I pray you lend an ear To a mel - an - cho - ly sto - ry which you shall quick - ly hear. 'Tis of two loy - al lov - ers who fond - ly were in - clined To taste the joys of wed - lock but for - tune proved un - kind.'

Now Betsy wrote a letter and sent it to her love,
Desiring him to meet her that night all in the grove,
She was dressed in men's apparel, so costly she was dressed,
But little did she know the thoughts that night ran through his breast.

Oh, when he saw her coming, he cried out, "Who is there?"
Alas, it is my brother; he thinks to meet my dear.
I quickly will deceive him; his butcher I will be,
He never shall enjoy her or live to trouble me.

A pistol he had loaded and held in his right hand
All for to shoot his brother as you can understand.
He fired, as he thought, at him, which caused his Betsy to fall,
And in her tender bosom he pierced that fatal ball.

"Oh, cruel hearted Jimmie," as she fell on the ground,
"Oh, cruel hearted Jimmie, you have give me my death wound.
Come, watch the crimson current from the deadly wound does flow,
Oh, cruel hearted Jimmie, you have proved my overthrow."

Oh, when he saw her dying he wept and tore his hair,
But soon another pistol for himself he did prepare.
"He has shot himself," cried Betsy, "here I die for loving thee.
Come all young lovers, take warning and beware of jealousy."

Note: I have never heard this sung by anyone but my brother Lewis and have never seen it in print.