

The Jolly Soldier

'Tis of a jol - ly sol - dier who late - ly came from war. He
loved a fair dam - sel, a dam - sel so fair. Her
for - tune was so great — that it could scarce - ly be told, And she
loved a jol - ly sol - dier, be - cause he was so bold.

Oh, then said the lady, "I fain would be your wife,
But my father he is cruel and he'd surely end my life."
He drew out his sword and pistol and he hung them by his side,
And he swore that he would marry her, let what would betide.

So, they went and they got married and as they were coming home
They met her old father with seven armed men.
"Let us flee," cried the lady, "or we both will be slain."
"Fear nothing, dear charmer," the soldier said again.

Then up came the old man and unto them did say,
"It is for your disobedience to me this very day
Since you've been so mean as to be a soldier's wife,
Down in this lonely valley I will surely end your life."

Oh, then says the soldier, "I do not like your prattle,
For although I am a bridegroom, I am well prepared for battle."
He drew out his sword and pistol and he caused them for to rattle.
The lady held the horse while the soldier fought the battle.

The first one he came to he ran him through amain,
The second one he came to he served him the same.
"Let us flee," cried the rest, "or we all will be slain."
"Fight on, my dear charmer," the lady said again.

“Stay your hand,” cried the old man, “you make my blood run cold,
And you shall have my daughter and five thousand pounds in gold.”
“Fight on,” cried the lady, “for my fortune is too small.”
“Stay your hand,” cried the old man, “and you shall have it all.”

So, he took them both home and he made them his heirs,
It was not from love, but it was from dread and fear.
For there never was a soldier ever carried a gun
Who would ever flinch or budge an inch till the battle he had won.

So, don't despise a soldier because he is poor,
He's happy on the battle field as at the barrack door.
For they are the lads to be jovial, brisk and free,
And they'll fight for the pretty girls, for rights and liberty.