

# The Stormy Scenes of Winter

The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 6/8. The melody is simple and folk-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "The stor - my scenes of win - ter in - clined to frost and snow. Dark clouds a - round us gath - er and stor - my winds do blow. The girl that I have cho - sen To be my on - ly dear, Her scorn - ful heart is fro - zen and safe locked up I fear."

I went one night to see my love; she proved most scornfully.  
I asked her if she'd marry, she would not answer me.  
"The night it is far spent and it is near to the break of day.  
Come, love, I want an answer, come tell to me I pray."

"I tell you, sir, quite plainly, I choose a single life,  
I never thought it suiting that I should be your wife.  
I have another more suiting and it's you I'll lay one side,  
Come take this for an answer and for yourself provide."

The little birds sing sweetly all in the summer time,  
And I, too, would sing sweetly if Flora was but mine.  
Some people talk of pleasure, but there's no joy for me.  
Farewell to this world of pleasure since fortune frowned on me."

I'll steer my course to Flanders, I'll lead a single life.  
Among the bold commanders my gun shall be my wife,  
And when I do get money to some tavern I will go  
And I'll drink a health to Flora, although she answers no.

Note: "The Stormy Scenes of Winter" and "The Lily of the West" I learned from hearing my cousin Frank Spinney sing them when I was a little girl. I have heard my father say that there was a song answering "The Stormy Scenes of Winter" where the young lady relents and calls back her lover. I have never heard the song outside my own family and have never heard the answer to it.