

Johnnie Doyle

In Wex-ford lived a dam - sel of wit and beau-ty rare She was a mer - chant's
6 daugh - ter, he had no oth - er heir; Of suit - ors she had plen - ty, men
11 of a high de - gree, But a youth-ful clerk her fath - er had, he stole her heart a - way.

They had not long been courting, when she had proved beguile.
She went unto this young man, and her story she did tell;
“Oh, Johnnie Doyle, I am beguile, prove kind and marry me
My father’s houses and rich lands, in time will fall to thee.”

He says, “My dearest dear, that is what I mean to do.
‘Tis for the sake of no-one else, but all for love of you;
But first, my dearest dear, I have a journey for to go,
Then shortly we’ll be married, if you let no one know.

One evening they were walking down by the river side,
Down to the ocean gliding, just at the even-tide;
Her precious body he threw in, he used her most severe,
And in one fortnight after, she was seen a-floating there.

One night as her old father was lying on his bed,
He saw his dearest daughter a-standing at his head;
She looked just like an angel, so brightly she did shine,
Saying, “Jonnie Doyle is the first man who did my heart trepan.

“Now, father, don’t prove cruel though he has proved unkind,
But if you go to Wexford, it’s there you will him find;
I own I was beguiled by him, he threw me in the deep,
Me and my precious baby in a watery grave do sleep.”

Her father called his coach and six, and Wexford he did seek.
And coming up to Wexford, he walked upon the street;
He looked around about him this young man for to seek,
And Johnnie Doyle was the first man her father chanced to meet.

He says, "You, barbarous villain, what murder's this you've done,
I brought you up as tenderly as a father could a son;
And all your faults I did forgive when you were young and wild.
You have robbed me of my daughter, my dear and only child."

The tears ran down her father's cheeks, for he could do no less.
The tears ran down young Johnnie's cheeks as the truth he did confess;
"I own I killed your daughter, the truth I won't deny."
He is put in close confinement, all people say he'll die.