

# Sweet Queen of the May

**Source info:**

Singer: Jane Gulliver

Place: Combe Florey

Collected: May 1905

Collector: Henry and Robert Hammond

Tune noted by H. A. Jeboult

MSS Source: <http://library.efdss.org/archives/>

MSS Ref: HAM/2/2/4

1. As I walked out one midsummer's morn,  
Through the fields and meadows so gay,  
' Twas who should I spy but a fair pretty maid,  
As she gathered her armfuls of may.  
    'Twas who should I spy but a fair pretty maid,  
    As she gathered her armfuls of may.
2. "Where are you going my fair pretty maid?  
Through the fields and meadows so gay,"  
"Oh! Kind sir," she said, "I am going far away,  
To gather my armfuls of may."  
    "Oh! Kind sir," she said, "I am going far away,  
    To gather my armfuls of may."
3. "Shall I go with you my fair pretty maid?  
Through the fields and meadows so gay."  
"No! Kind sir," she said, "I will rather refuse,  
For I'm 'fraid you would lead me astray."  
    "No! Kind sir," she said, "I will rather refuse,  
    For I'm 'fraid you would lead me astray."
4. He then caught her hold by her lily-white hand,  
Throught the fields and meadows so gay,  
He then placed her down 'pon the green mossy bank  
Whilst he gathered his armfuls of may.  
    He then placed her down (*short pause*) 'pon the green mossy bank  
    Whilst he gathered his armfuls of may.
5. She then rosed up and she gave him a smile,  
And she thanked him for what he had done,  
He then placed a rose at her lily-white cheek,  
Saying, "My dearest, it is not a thorn."  
    He then placed a rose at her lily-white cheek,  
    Saying, "My dearest, it is not a thorn."
6. "Now, my dearest," said he, "now my bride you shall be,  
And the people have nothing to say,  
For the church bells shall ring, now my bride you shall be,  
Whilst they crown you the sweet Queen of May,  
    For the church bells shall ring, now my bride you shall be,  
    Whilst they crown you the sweet Queen of May."