

Maid of the Sweet Brown Knowe

D G
Come all ye lads and lasses,
A7 D G
And hear my mournful tale,
D Bm G
Ye tender hearts that weep for love
A7
To sigh you will not fail,
D Bm
'Tis all about a young man,
A7
And my song will tell you how
D G
He lately came a-courtin'
A7 D G
Of the Maid of the Sweet Brown Knowe.

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Said he, "My pretty young fair maid,  
Could you and I agree  
To join our hands in wedlock bands,  
And married we will be  
We'll join our hands in wedlock bands,  
And you'll have my plighted vow  
That I'll do my whole endeavours  
For the Maid of the Sweet Brown Knowe.

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Now this young and pretty fickle thing,
She knew not what to say
Her eyes did shine like silver bright,
And merrily did play
Says she, "Young man, your love subdued,
I am not ready now
And I'll spend another season
At the foot of the Sweet Brown Knowe."

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"Oh," says he, "My pretty young fair maid,  
Now why do you say so?  
Look down in yonder valley  
Where my verdant crops do grow  
Look down in yonder valley  
At my horses and my plough,  
All at their daily labour  
For the Maid of the Sweet Brown Knowe."

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"If they're at their daily labour,
Kind sir, it is not for me
I've heard of your behaviour,
I have, kind sir," said she,
"There is an inn where you drop in,
I've heard the people say
Where you rap and you call and you pay for all,
And go home by the break of day."

"If I rap and I call and I pay for all,
My money is all my own.
I've never spent aught of your fortune,
For I hear that you've got none.
You thought you had my poor heart broke
In talkin' to you now,
But I'll leave you where I found you,
At the foot of the Sweet Brown Knowe."

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The Maid of the Sweet Brown Knowe is a love song with a sting in the final verse

This song is a variation on the hundreds of courting songs to be found in Irish folk music.

It's not one of the better known Irish songs, although it has been recorded by The Clancys and by Luke Kelly of the Dubliners. The word Knowe in the title simply means hill or small mountain.

The song begins in a conventional way with the young man asking the maid to marry him, but it quickly takes a twist and ends with petulance and recrimination.

For more information about The Maid of the Sweet Brown Knowe and videos, visit <http://www.irishmusicforever.com/maid-of-the-sweet-brown-knowe>

### Chord Converter

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There's lots of information about changing chords, dominant sevenths, advanced use of capo, and more to make playing your favourite songs easier.

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