

## June Tabor "Geordie"

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There was a battle in the north  
And nobles there were many  
And they have killed Sir Charlie Hay  
And laid the blame on Geordie

O he has written a long letter  
And sent it to his lady:  
You must come up to Edinburgh town  
To see what news of Geordie

When first she looked the letter on  
She was both red and rosy  
She had not read a word but two  
When she grew pale as the lily

Go fetch to me my good grey steed  
My men shall all go with me  
For I shall neither eat nor drink  
Till Edinburgh town shall see me

Then she has mounted her good grey steed  
Her men they all went with her  
And she did neither eat nor drink  
Till Edinburgh town did see her

And first appeared the fatal block  
And then the axe to head him  
And Geordie coming down the stair  
With bands of iron upon him

Though he was chained in fetters strong  
Of iron and steel so heavy  
O not a one in all the court  
Was so fine a man as Geordie

O she'd down on her bended knee

I'm sure she's pale and weary  
O pardon, pardon noble kings,  
And give me back my dearie

Go tell the heading man make haste  
Our king replies full lordly  
O noble king take all that's mine  
But give me back my Geordie

The Gordons came and the Gordons ran  
And they were stark and steady  
And ay the word among them all  
Was Gordons keep you ready

An aged lord at the king's right hand  
Says Noble kings, but hear me,  
Let her count out five thousand pounds  
And give her back her dearie

Some gave her marks, some gave her crowns  
Some gave her dollars many  
She's counted out five thousand pounds  
And she's gotten again her dearie.

She glanced blithe in her Geordie's face  
Say Dear I've bought thee Geordie;  
But the blood would have flowed upon the green  
Before I lost my laddie

He clasped her by the middle small  
And he kissed her lips so rosy  
The fairest flower of women kind  
Is my sweet bonny lady

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