

## Levellers

# "The Devil Went Down To Gorgia"

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The devil went down to Georgia  
He was looking for a soul to steal  
And he was in a bind  
'Coe he was way behind  
And was willin' to make a deal  
When he came upon a boy playing on a fiddle  
Aand playin' it hot  
And the devil jumped up on a hickory stump and said,  
"Boy let me tell you what:

I bet you didn't know it but I'm a fiddle player too,  
And if you care to take a dare  
I'll make a bet with you  
Now you play a pretty good fiddle boy  
But give the devil his due  
I'll bet a fiddle of gold against your soul  
'Cos I think I'm better than you."

The boy said, "My name's Johnny  
And it might be a sin  
But I'll take your bet, your gonna regret  
'Cos I'm the best that's ever been."

Johnny rosin up your bow and play your fiddle hard  
'Cos hell's broke loose in Georgia  
And the devil deals the cards  
And if you win you get this shiny fiddle made of gold  
But if you lose the devil gets your soul.

The devil opened up his case and he said,  
"Well I guess I'll start this show."  
And fire flew from his fingertips  
As he rosined up his bow  
And he pulled the bow across the strings  
And it made an evil hiss  
Then a band of demons joined in

And it sounded just like this:

When the devil finished Johnny said,  
"Well you're pretty good ol' son!  
But sit down in that chair right there

And let me show you how it's done!"

Fire on the mountain, run boys run  
Devil's in the house of the rising sun  
Chickens in the breadpan, picking out dough  
Granny does your dog bite?  
No, child, no

The devil bowed his head  
Because he knew that he'd been beat,  
And he laid that golden fiddle  
On the ground at Johnny's feet  
Johnny said, "Devil, just come on back  
If you ever wanna try again.  
I done told you once,  
You son-of-a-bitch,  
I'm the best that's ever been!"

He played:  
Fire on the mountain, run boys run  
Devil's in the house of the rising sun  
Chickens in the breadpan, picking out dough  
Granny does your dog bite?  
No, child, no

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