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Lloyd "The Sheep Stealer"

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The Sheep Stealer

I am a brisk lad but my fortune is bad,

And I am most wonderful poor.

Oh, indeed I intend my life for to mend

And to build a house down on the moor, brave boys

And to build a house down on the moor.

The farmer he do keep fat oxen and sheep

In a neat little nag on the downs.

In the middle of the night when the moon do shine bright,

There's a number of work to be done, brave boys,

There's a number of work to be done.

Then I'll roam all around in another man's ground,

And I'll take a fat sheep for my own.

Oh, I'll end his life by the aid of my knife

And then I will carry him home, brave boys,

And then I will carry him home.

My children will pull the skin from the ewe

And I'll be in a place where there's none.

When the constable do come, I'll stand with my gun

And swear all I have is my own, brave boys,

And swear all I have is my own.

From Lloyd, Folk Song in England

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