Nick Cave & The Bad Seed "Oxford Tragedy (Traditional Version)"

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Once there was a little tailor boy About sixteen years of age; My father hired me to a miller That I might learn the trade. I fell in love with a Knoxville girl, Her name was Flora Dean. Her rosy cheeks, her curly hair, I really did admire.

Her father he persuaded me

To take Flora for a wife;

The devil he persuaded me

To take Flora's life.

Up stepped her mother so bold and gay,

So boldly she did stand;

Johnny dear, go marry her

And take her off my hands.

I went unto her father's house

About nine o'clock at night,

A-asking her to take a walk

To do some prively talk.

We had not got so very far

Till looking around and around,

He stooping down picked up a stick

And knocks little Flora down.

She fell upon her bended knees,

For mercy she did cry:

O Johnny dear, don't murder me,

For I'm not fit to die.

I took her by her lily-white hands

A-slung her around and around;

I drug her off to the river-side,

And plunged her in to drown.

I returned back to my miller's house

About nine o'clock at night,

But little did my miller know

What I had been about.

The miller turned around and about,

Said: Johnny, what blooded your clothes?"

Me being so apt to take a hint:

By bleeding at the nose.

About nine or ten days after that,

Little Flora she was found

A-floating down by her father's house Who lived in Knoxville town.

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