

# DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE

*Performed by:* Minnie Murphy

When I was young and in my prime my age scarce twenty-one,  
I fell in love with a pretty young girl, she had my heart near won;  
My own I loved her dearly, she was my only pride,  
Now she lives home with her parents dear, down by the riverside.

The very first time I saw my love it pierced me through the heart,  
With her right hand she placed in mine, I thought we would never part;  
And turning my back around to her, heartbroken I was drove,  
Saying, 'What is the good of my gold to me when I haven't the girl I love?'

I murdered my wife on a moonlight night on the twenty-third of June,  
Soon I was taken to Wexford Gaol to meet my coming doom;  
The judge he passed my sentence, sure that's where my case was tried,  
Saying, 'Tomorrow by night, sure you must hang down by the riverside.'

It being on the very next morning as I lay in my cell,  
I thought on my parents who were so cruel, would not let me choose my own mind,  
I thought on my parents who were so cruel, would not let me choose my own bride,  
They would rather see me bend the tree, down by the riverside.

So come on all folks take warning don't ever try to part,  
The one that you love dearly, don't turn her from your heart;  
For if she is poor or happy on shore and dearly love the bride,  
Don't ever stand to see him hanged, down by the riverside.