John Barleycorn

Traditional, modified for harvest





Verse 1:

There [D] were three [Am] men, came [C] out [G] of the [Am] west, their [D] fortunes [C] for [G] to [Am] try [Asus2] [Am]

And [D] these three [Am] men made a [C] so- [G] -lemn [Am] vow: [Asus2] [Am]

John [D] Barley- [C] -corn [G] must [Am] die! [Asus2] [Am] [Asus2]

They [C] ploughed, they sowed, [Cmaj7] they [Am] harrowed him in,
Threw [C] clods up- [D] -on his [Esus4] head [E7] [E7sus4] [E7] [E7]
Till [Dm] these three [Am] men were [C]sa- [G] -tis- [Am] -fied: [Asus2] [Am]
John [D] Barley- [C] -corn [G] was [Am] dead. [Asus2] [Am] [Asus2]

Verse 2:

They [D] let him [Am] lie for a [C] long [G] long [Am] time

Till the [D] rains from [C] heaven [G] did [Am] fall, [Asus2] [Am]

And [D] little Sir [Am] John sprang [C] up [G] his [Am] head [Asus2] [Am]

And [D] so a- [C] -mazed [G] them [Am] all. [Asus2] [Am] [Asus2]

They [C] let him fly [Cmaj7] till the [Am] midsummer's day

Till he [C] looked both [D] pale and [Esus4] wan, [E7] [E7sus4] [E7] [E7]

Oh then [Dm] little Sir [Am] John grew a [C] long [G] long [Am] beard [Asus2] [Am]

And [D] so be- [C] came [G] a [Am] man. [Asus2] [Am] [Asus2]

Verse 3:

They have [D] hired [Am] men with the [C] scythes [G] so [Am] sharp
To [D] cut him [C] off [G] at the [Am] knee, [Asus2] [Am]
They [D] rolled and they [Am] tied him a- [C] -round [G] the [Am] waist [Asus2] [Am]
Serving [D] him most [C] barba- [G] -rous- [Am] -ly . [Asus2] [Am] [Asus2]

They [C] hired men [Cmaj7] with the [Am] sharp pitchforks

To [C] pierce him [D] through the [Esus4] heart, [E7] [E7sus4] [E7] [E7] [E7]

And the [Dm] loader he [Am] served him [C] worse [G] than [Am] that, [Asus2] [Am]

For he [D] tied him [C] to [G] a [Am] cart. [Asus2] [Am] [Asus2]

Verse 4:

They [D] wheeled him a - [Am] -round & a- [C] -round [G] the [Am] field Till they [D] came un- [C]-to [G] a [Am] barn, [Asus2] [Am] And [D] there they [Am] beat him [C] up- [G] a- [Am] -gain [Asus2] [Am] Oh, [D] poor John [C] Bar- [G] -ley- [Am] -corn. [Asus2] [Am] [Asus2]

They [C] hired men [Cmaj7] with the [Am] crab-tree sticks to [C] strip him [D] skin from [Esus4] bone, [E7] [E7sus4] [E7] [E7] [E7] And the [Dm] miller he [Am] treated him [C] worst [G] of [Am] all [Asus2] [Am] For he [D] ground him be- [C] -tween [G] two [Am] stones. [Asus2] [Am] [Asus2]

Verse 5:

Here's [D] little Sir [Am] John as the [C] nut- [G] -brown [Am] bread
And [D] whiskey [C] in [G] a [Am] glass. [Asus2] [Am]
And [D] Little Sir [Am] John as the [C] nut- [G] -brown [Am] bread [Asus2] [Am]
Proved the [D] stronger [C] man [G] at [Am] last. [Asus2] [Am]

For the [C] huntsman, he [Cmaj7] can't [Am] hunt the fox nor [C] loudly [D] blow his [Esus4] horn, [E7] [E7sus4] [E7] [E7] [E7] And a [Dm] mother can't [Am] feed her [C] fa- [G] -mi- [Am] -ly [Asus2] [Am] With- [D] out a little [C] bar- [G] -ley [Am] corn.

Repeat last 2 lines instrumental

And a [Dm] mother can't [Am] feed her [C] fa- [G] -mi- [Am] -ly [Asus2] [Am] With- [D] out a little [C] bar- [G] -ley [Am] corn.

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