

The MAID of the SWEET BROWN KNOWE

COME ALL YE LADS AND LASSIES AND LISTEN TO ME AWHILE
I'LL SING TO YOU A VERSE OR TWO THAT'S SURE TO MAKE YOU SMILE
IT'S ALL ABOUT A YOUNG MAN AND I'M GOING TO TELL YOU NOW
HOW HE LATELY CAME A COURTING THE MAID OF THE SWEET BROWN KNOWE!

SAID HE "MY PRETTY FAIR MAID, WILL YOU COME ALONG WITH ME?
WE'LL BOTH GO OFF TOGETHER AND MARRIED WE WILL BE;
WE'LL JOIN OUR HANDS IN WEDLOCK BANDS AS I'M SPEAKING TO YOU NOW
AND I'LL DO MY BEST ENDEAVOR FOR THE MAID OF THE SWEET BROWN KNOWE!"

THIS FAIR AND FICKLE YOUNG THING, SHE KNEW NOT WHAT TO SAY
HER EYES DID SHINE LIKE SILVER BRIGHT AND MERRILY DID PLAY
SHE SAID "YOUNG MAN, YOUR LOVE SUBDUE, FOR I'M NOT READY NOW
AND I'LL SPEND ANOTHER SEASON AT THE FOOT OF THE SWEET BROWN KNOWE!"

SAID HE "MY PRETTY FAIR MAID, HOW CAN YOU ANSWER SO?
LOOK DOWN IN YONDER VALLEY WHERE MY CROPS DO GENTLY GROW
LOOK DOWN IN YONDER VALLEY WHERE MY HORSES, MEN, AND PLOW
ARE AT THEIR BEST ENDEAVOR FOR THE MAID OF THE SWEET BROWN KNOWE!"

"IF THEY'RE AT THEIR DAILY LABOR, THEN SURE IT'S NOT FOR ME -
I'VE HEARD OF YOUR BEHAVIOR, I HAVE INDEED," SAID SHE
"THERE IS AN INN WHERE YOU CALL IN, I'VE HEARD THE PEOPLE SAY
WHERE YOU RAP AND CALL AND PAY FOR ALL
AND GO HOME AT THE BREAK OF DAY!"

"IF I RAP AND CALL AND PAY FOR ALL, MY MONEY IS ALL MY OWN
AND I'LL NEVER SPEND YOUR FORTUNE, FOR I HEAR THAT YOU HAVE NONE!
YOU THOUGHT YOU HAD MY POOR HEART BROKE BY MEETING WITH ME NOW
BUT I'LL LEAVE YOU WHERE I FOUND YOU -
AT THE FOOT OF THE SWEET BROWN KNOWE!"