

The Mad Merry Pranks of Robin Good-fellow

Tune: *Dulcina*

Words: *Ben Johson (1572-1637)*

C Am G C D G

1. From O - bri - on in Fair - y Land, the King of Ghosts and ___ shad - dows ___ there,
 2. More swift then Light - ning can I flye, and round a - bout this ___ Ayr welk - in soon,
 3. If an - y Wand - er - - ers I meet, that from their night - sports ___ do trudge ___ home,
 4. Some - times I meet them like a man, some - times an Ox, some - - times a ___ Hound,
 5. When Lads and Lass - es mer - ry be, with Pos - sets and with ___ junk - ets ___ fine,

C Am G C F C G7 C

Mad Rob - in I at his com - mand, am sent to view the ___ Night - sports here:
 And in a min - utes space dis - cry, each thing thats done be - - neath the Moon:
 With count - er - feit - ing voice I greet, and cause them on with ___ me to rome
 And to a Horse I turn me can, to trip and trot a - - bout them round:
 Un - seen of all the Com - pan - y, I eat their Cakes and ___ drink their Wine:

Am F Em Am D7 G F

What Rev - el Rout, Is kept a - bout, In eve - ry cor - - ner ___ where ___ I ___ go;
 Theres not a Hag, Nor Ghost shall wag, Nor cry Gob - lin ___ where ___ I ___ do ___ go,
 Through woods, through lakes, Through bogs through brakes, Ore Bush and Bry - - er with them ___ I ___ go,
 But if to Ride, My back they stride, More swift then wind, ___ a - - way ___ I ___ go,
 And to make sport, I fart and snort, And out the Can - dles ___ I ___ do ___ blow,

C Am G C F C G7 C

I will ore see, And mer - ry be, And make good sport with, ___ ho ___ ho.
 But Rob - in I, Their feats will spy, And fear them home with, ___ ho ___ ho.
 I call up - on Them to come on, And wend me laugh - ing, ___ ho ___ ho.
 Ore hedge and Lands, Through Pools and Ponds, I whir - ry laugh - ing, ___ ho ___ ho.
 The Maids I kiss, They shriek, whose this? I an - swer nought but, ___ ho ___ ho.

Tune: Chappell - Popular Music of the Olden Times (1859)

Pills to Purge Melancholy, 1720

AK/Fiddler's Companion

6.~Yet now and then the Maids to please, I Card at midnight up their Wool,
 And while they sleep, snort, fart, and snease, with Wheel to thread their Flax I pull:
 I grind at Mill, Their Mault up still, I dress their hemp, I spin their Tow,
 If any [wa]ke, And would me take, I wend me laughing, ho ho ho.

7.~When House or Herth doth fluttish lye, I pinch the Maids there black and blew,
And from the Bed, the Bed-cloaths I, pull off and lay them nakd to view:
Twixt sleep and wake, I do them take, And on the Key-cold flower them throw,
If out they cry, Then forth flye I, And loudly Laugh, ho ho ho.

8.~When any need to borrow ought, we lend them what they do require,
And for the use demand we nought, our own is all we do desire:
If to repay, They do delay, Abroad amongst them then I go,
And night by night, I them affright With pinching dreams, and ho ho ho.

9.~When lazy queans have nought to do, but study how to cog and lye;
To make debate and mischief too, twixt one another secretly:
I mark their glose, And it disclose To them which they have wronged so:
When I have done, I get me gone, And leave them scolding, ho ho ho.

10.~When men do traps and Engines set in loop-holes where the Vermine creep,
That from their Folds and Houses steal their Ducks and Geese, their Lambs & sheep
I spy the gin, And enter in, And seems a Vermine taken so;
But when they there, Approach me near, I leap out laughing, ho ho ho.

11.~By Wells and Giles in Meadows green, we nightly dance our hay-day guise,
And to our Fairy King and Queen, we chaunt our Moon-light harmonies:
When Larks gin sing, Away we fling, And Babes new-born steal as we go:
An Elf in bed, We leave in stead, And wend us laughing, ho ho ho.

12.~From Hay-bred Merlins time have I, thus mighty Reveld to and fro,
And for my Pranks Men call me by the name of Robin Good-fellow.
Fiends, Ghosts, and Sprites, That haunt the nights, The Hags and Goblins do me know
And Beldams old, My feats have told, So Vale, vale, ho ho ho.