

The Elfin Knight (Child 2A)

MY plaid awa, my plaid awa,
And ore the hill and far awa,
And far awa to Norrowa,
My plaid shall not be blown awa.

- 1 The elphin knight sits on yon hill, 5
Ba, ba, ba, lilli ba
He blows his horn both lowd and shril.
The wind hath blown my plaid awa
- 2 He blowes it east, he blowes it west, 10
He blowes it where he lyketh best.
- 3 'I wish that horn were in my kist,
Yea, and the knight in my armes two.'
- 4 She had no sooner these words said,
When that the knight came to her bed.
- 5 'Thou art over young a maid,' quoth he, 15
'Married with me thou il wouldst be.'
- 6 'I have a sister younger than I,
And she was married yesterday.'
- 7 'Married with me if thou wouldst be,
A courtesie thou must do to me. 20
- 8 'For thou must shape a sark to me,
Without any cut or heme,' quoth he.
- 9 'Thou must shape it knife-and-sheerlesse,
And also sue it needle-threedlesse.'
- 10 'If that piece of courtesie I do to thee, 25
Another thou must do to me.

- 11 'I have an aiker of good ley-land,
Which lyeth low by yon sea-strand.
- 12 'For thou must eare it with thy horn,
So thou must sow it with thy corn. 30
- 13 'And bigg a cart of stone and lyme,
Robin Redbreast he must trail it hame.
- 14 'Thou must barn it in a mouse-holl,
And thrash it into thy shoes soll.
- 15 'And thou must winnow it in thy looff,
And also seek it in thy glove. 35
- 16 'For thou must bring it over the sea,
And thou must bring it dry home to me.
- 17 'When thou hast gotten thy turns well done,
Then come to me and get thy sark then.' 40
- 18 'I 'l not quite my plaid for my life;
It haps my seven bairns and my wife.'
The wind shall not blow my plaid awa
- 19 'My maidenhead I 'l then keep still,
Let the elphin knight do what he will.' 45
The wind 's not blown my plaid awa