

Lizie Wan (Child 51A)

- 1 LIZIE WAN sits at her father's bower-door,
Weeping and making a mane,
And by there came her father dear:
'What ails thee, Lizie Wan?'
- 2 'I ail, and I ail, dear father,' she said, 5
'And I 'll tell you a reason for why;
There is a child between my twa sides,
Between my dear billy and I.'
- 3 Now Lizie Wan sits at her father's bower-door, 10
Sighing and making a mane,
And by there came her brother dear:
'What ails thee, Lizie Wan?'
- 4 'I ail, I ail, dear brither,' she said,
'And I 'll tell you a reason for why;
There is a child bewteen my twa sides, 15
Between you, dear billy, and I.'
- 5 'And hast thou tald father and mother o that?
And hast thou tald sae o me?'
And he has drawn his gude braid sword,
That hung down by his knee. 20
- 6 And he has cutted aff Lizie Wan's head,
And her fair body in three,
And he 's awa to his mothers bower,
And sair aghast was he.
- 7 'What ails thee, what ails thee, Geordy Wan? 25
What ails thee sae fast to rin?
For I see by thy ill colour
Some fallow's deed thou hast done.'
- 8 'Some fallow's deed I have done, mother,

- And I pray you pardon me; 30
For I 've cutted aff my greyhound's head;
He wadna rin for me.'
- 9 'Thy greyhound's bluid was never sae red,
O my son Geordy Wan!
For I see by thy ill colour 35
Some fallow's deed thou hast done.'
- 10 'Some fallow's deed I hae done, mother,
And I pray you pardon me;
For I hae cutted aff Lizie Wan's head
And her fair body in three.' 40
- 11 'O what wilt thou do when thy father comes hame,
O my son Geordy Wan?'
'I'll set my foot in a bottomless boat,
And swim to the sea-ground.'
- 12 'And when will thou come hame again, 45
O my son Geordy Wan?'
'The sun and the moon shall dance on the green
That night when I come hame.'