Traditional , Capo: 3

G G/F# Em
Twas in the merry month of May
C D
When green buds all were swelling,
C G G/F# Em
Sweet William on his death bed lay
G D G
For the love of Barbara Allen.

He sent his servant to the town To the place where she was dwelling, Saying you must come to my master dear If your name is Barbara Allen.

So slowly, slowly she got up And slowly she drew near him, And the only words to him she said Oh young man I think you're dying.

He turned his face unto the wall And death was in him welling, Good-bye, good-bye, to you my friends And be good to Barbara Allen.

When he was dead and laid in grave She heard the death bells knelling And every stroke to her did say Hard hearted Barbara Allen.

Oh mother, mother dig my grave And make it long and narrow, Sweet William died of love for me And I will die of sorrow.

And father, father dig my grave And make it long and narrow, Sweet William, he died yesterday And I will die tomorrow.

And she was buried in the old churchyard Sweet William layed beside her, Out of William's heart, there grew a rose Out of Barbara Allen's a briar.

They grew and grew in the old churchyard Till they could grow no higher At the end they formed, a true lover's knot The rose around the briar.