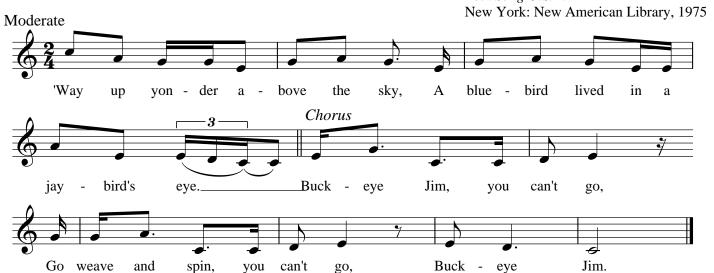
Buckeye Jim

Source: John A. and Alan Lomax *Folk Song U.S.A.*



- 2. 'Way up yonder above the moon, A blue-jay nests in a silver spoon, (Chorus)
- 3. 'Way down yonder in a wooden trough, An old woman died of the whoopin' cough. (Chorus)
- 4. 'Way down yonder on a hollow log, A red bird danced with a green bullfrog. (Chorus)

Background Information

Here is a lullaby from the Southern Appalachians, a bright pattern of color out of the ragbag of the past, to be sung softly and with tenderness. The melody has the simple and unfathomable loveliness of a green branch swaying in the summer wind; but like other things that grow up out of the soil, surely and unconsciously beautiful, this song is a mystery. . . In "Buckeye Jim" there is a feeling of other-worldliness, the sense of things seen through the mirror of fantasy. Hum "Buckeye Jim" and then sing "The Grey Goose," "Frog Went A-Courtin," "Mister Rabbit," "The Boll Weevil," "Old Blue," "Ground Hog," and other American songs about animals. Then it will be clear that "Buckeye Jim" has a special unearthly quality, a child's imagining wrapped round with the haze of sweet blue hills.

John A. and Alan Lomax