

# Gypsy Davy

Informant/Performer:  
Mrs. Emma Dusenbury  
Mena, AR, 1936

Source:  
Library of Congress AFS 848 A1  
Collected by John A. Lomax

$\text{♩} = 88$

There was a man, a ve - ry young man, his name was Gyp - sy Da - vy

He sung so loud he made the green - woods ring and charmed the heart of a la - dy,

and charmed the heart of a la - dy.

Transcribed by Gail Needleman

2. "Oh, would you forsake your house and home?  
Oh, would you forsake your baby?  
Oh, would you forsake your own dear one  
And go with the Gypsy Davy,  
And go with the Gypsy Davy?"
3. "Oh yes, I'd forsake my house and home,  
Oh yes, I'd forsake my baby,  
Oh yes, I'd forsake my own dear one  
And go with the Gypsy Davy,  
And go with the Gypsy Davy."
4. The old man he come home that night,  
Inquiring for his Mary;  
But the Injuns (?) took him up t' the chamber room:  
"She's gone with the Gypsy Davy,  
She's gone with the Gypsy Davy."
5. "Go saddle me up my milk-white steed,  
My young one is too gaily (?);  
I'll ride all day and I'll ride all night,  
I'll overtake my lady,  
I'll overtake my lady."

6. He rode all day and he rode all night  
Until he come to the river.  
The water-mark was up very high  
And it was very muddy,  
And it was very muddy.
7. "How can you forsake your house and home?  
How can you forsake your baby?  
How can you forsake your own dear one  
And go with the Gypsy Davy,  
And go with the Gypsy Davy?"
8. "Very well I've forsaken my house and home,  
Very well I've forsaken my baby,  
Very well I've forsaken my own dear one  
And go with the Gypsy Davy,  
And go with the Gypsy Davy."
9. "Oh extend to me your lily-white hand  
All wrapped in Spanish leather,  
Oh extend to me your lily-white hand,  
We'll bid farewell forever,  
We'll bid farewell forever."
10. "I'll extend to you my lily-white hand  
All wrapped in Spanish leather,  
I'll send to you my lily-white hand,  
We'll bid farewell forever,  
We'll bid farewell forever."
11. "Oh, once I had a house and home,  
Once I had some money;  
But now I lie on an old hay bed  
With the gypsies a-dancing around me,  
With the gypsies a-dancing around me."

Spoken: "She was one big fool."