

When Adam Was Created

Informant/Performer:
Jasper Robertson
Burnsville, NC, 1918

Source:
Cecil J. Sharp
*English Folk Songs from the
Southern Appalachians*
Maud Karpeles, ed.
London: Oxford Univ. Press, 1932

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and folk-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff ends with a comma, the second with a period, the third with a comma, and the fourth with a double bar line.

When A - dam was cre - a - ted, he dwelled in Ed - en's shade,
As Mo - ses has re - la - ted, be - fore his bride was made.
Ten thou - sand times ten thou - sand of crea - tures swarmed a - round
Be - fore his bride was form - ed or a - ni - mate was found.

2. He had no conversation, he seemed like one alone,
Then to his admiration he found he'd lost a bone.
Great was his exaltation when first he saw his bride,
Great his elevation to see her by his side.
3. This woman was not taken from Adam's head, we know,
And she must not rule over him, 'tis evidently so.
This woman was not taken from Adam's feet, we see,
And he must not abuse her, the meaning seems to be.
4. This woman she was taken from under Adam's arms,
And she must be protected from hunger and harm.
This woman she was taken from near to Adam's heart,
By this we are directed that they must never part.
5. To you, most loving bridegroom, to you, most loving bride,
Be sure you live a Christian and for your house provide.
Avoid all discontent, don't sow the seed of strife,
As is the solemn duty of every man and wife.