

# Burny Bee

Source:

Mark Williams

*Two-Part American Songs, Book Two*

San Antonio, Tex.: Southern Music Company, 1988

Musical notation for the song "Burny Bee" in 2/4 time, key of D major. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are: Bur - ny bee, Bur - ny bee, tell me when your wed - ding be. (my) If it be to - mor - row day, take your wings and fly a - way.

## Background Information

"Burny-bee" is a name for the ladybird (ladybug). The chant is said to a ladybird perched on a child's finger, after which the child blows gently on the insect and it flies away.

Another version of the chant:

Bless you, bless you, burnie-bee,  
Tell me when my wedding be;  
If it be tomorrow day,  
Take your wings and fly away.  
Fly to the east, fly to the west,  
Fly to him I love the best.