

## 57 Searching for Young Lambs - Mr Whitby

As John - ny was a - walk - ing one mid - sum - mer's morn, Oh  
 there did he hide him - self all un - der - neath - a thorn. A beau - ti - ful dam - sel by  
 chance passed him by, and - there - he did cast on her his lang - uish - ing eye.\*

1  
 As Johnny was a-walking one mid-summer's morn,  
 Oh there did hide himself all underneath a thorn.  
 A beautiful damsel by chance passed him by,  
 and there he did cast on her his languishing eye.  
 \* *His languishing eye; his languishing eye,  
 and there he did cast on her his languishing eye.*

2  
 She said, 'Have you seen a ewe with two pretty lambs?  
 She's strayed from her comrades; strayed away from  
 her dams.'  
 'O yes, my pretty fair maid, I saw them just pass by.  
 They're down in yonder valley and that is very nigh.'  
 'And that is very nigh; and that is very nigh,  
 They're down in yonder valley and that is very nigh.'

3  
 She traced the valleys over; no lamb could she find;  
 her Johnny, dear Johnny so often in her mind.  
 She turned herself quite curiously and, smiling with a  
 blush,  
 and there she saw her Johnny all hiding in a bush.  
*All hiding in a bush, all hiding in a bush,  
 and there she saw her Johnny all hiding in a bush.*

4  
 O then the words of love did begin to overflow;  
 he took her down those meadows, down those meadows  
 down below  
 and while his arms were round her and for her love did sue,  
 then the lambs played all around them, all in the morning  
 dew.  
*All in the morning dew, all in the morning dew;  
 then the lambs played all around them, all in the morning  
 dew.*

5  
 So now to conclude and to finish up my song,  
 they are the happiest couple and the highest of the throng.  
 So now they are got married; happy in wedlock's bands;  
 no more to go a-roving in searching for young lambs.  
*In searching for young lambs, in searching for young lambs;  
 no more to go a-roving in searching for young lambs.*

\*  
 RVW did not include a refrain in his manuscript but,  
 unusually, he did not put a final bar-line after the verse either.  
 This might imply a 'standard format' for the refrain that he  
 meant to add later. Below is one possibility.

His lang - uish - ing eye, his - lang - uish - ing eye; and -  
 there - he did cast on her his lang - uish - ing eye.