

**The Hiring Fair**  
**Fairport Convention**

[Intro]

**Em C Em C**

[Verse]

**Em C G D/F#**  
I went down to the hiring fair for to sell my labour  
**Em C Bm C**  
I noticed a maid in the very next row, I hoped she d be my neighbour  
**G D/F# Em C**  
Imagine then my delight when the farmer picked us both  
**D**  
Though I spoke not a word on the cart to the farm  
**Em C**  
My heart beat in my throat

[Verse]

**Em C G D/F#**  
My lodging was dry and my master fair, I gave him full measure  
**Em C Bm C**  
Like corn in the field my envy grew, for in his house was my treasure  
**G D/F# Em C**  
I watched her carry water, or drive cows from the byre  
**D**  
And the heat from the sun made the corn grow strong  
**Em C Em C**  
And with it my desire

[Verse]

**Em C G D/F#**  
I see her in my dreaming and in my dreams caress  
**Em C Bm C**  
Her lips, her eyes, her dark brown hair, the curves beneath her dress  
**G D/F# Em C**  
And harvest time it came at last, so heavy was our task  
**D**  
That the women and the men worked side by side  
**Em C Em C**  
So I had her near at last

[Verse]

**Em C G D**  
I swung harder with my scythe, few words between us passed  
**Em C Bm C**  
I cursed my tongue-tied youthfulness, hoped she d hear my heart  
**G D/F# Em C**  
When all was safely gathered in, we sat down to rest  
**D**

My trembling fingers touched her arm

**Em**

She placed them on her breast

[Instrumental]

**Em C Em C Em C Em C**

[Verse]

**Em**

**C**

**G**

**D/F#**

She turned to me as the sun went down and all my senses reeled

**Em**

**C**

**Bm**

**C**

We lay there on the scented ground til the moon rose over the field

[Instrumental]

**G D/F# Em C**

**D Em C Em C**

**Gm7 Eb Gm7 Eb**

**Gm7 Eb Gm7 Eb**

**Em C Em C**

[Verse]

**Em**

**C**

**G**

**D/F#**

She was safely gathered in my arms when from the barn

**Em**

**C**

**Bm**

**C**

Drifted the sound of a violin and we hurried to the farm

**G**

**D/F#**

**Em**

**C**

All were dancing in the lantern light and music filled the air

**D**

And I thanked the stars and the harvest moon

**Em**

For the girl from the hiring fair

[Outro]

**Em C Em C Em C x3**