

Johnny Of Bradys Lea
Planxty

[Verse 1]

A **E** **A**
Oh, Johnny rose on a May morning,
 D
Called for water to wash his hands,
 A **D** **A**
Saying "Bring to me my two grey dogs,
 E **D**
That lie bound in iron bands."
 E
When Johnny's mother she heard of this,
 D **A** **E**
She wrung her hands full sore,
 A **D** **A** **D**
Says "Johnny, for your venison
 E **D** **E**
To the green woods do not go."

[Verse 2]

A **E** **A**
"For there are seven foresters in Esslemont,
 D
And this you know full well,
 A **D** **A**
For one small drop of your heart's blood
 E **D**
They would ride to the gates of Hell."
 E
"Oh, there's many men are my friends, Mother,
 D **A** **E**
Though many more are my foe.
 A **D** **A** **D**
And betide me well or betide me ill,
 E **D** **E**
A-hunting I will go."

[Verse 3]

A **E** **A**
So Johnny has taken his good bent bow,
 D
His arrows one by one,
 A **D** **A**
And he's away to Monymusk
 E **D**
For to bring the dun deer down.

[Instrumental]

E
D A E
A D A D
E D E

[Verse 4]

A E A
Oh, Johnny shot and the dun deer rose,
D
Heâ€™s wounded her in the side.
A D A
And between the water and the woods,
E D
The two dogs laid her pride.
E
And they ate so much of the venison,
D A E
They drank so much of the blood,
A D A D
That Johnny and his two grey dogs
E D E
Fell asleep as if they had been dead.

[Verse 5]

A E A
And by there came a sly old man,
D
A silly old man was he,
A D A
And heâ€™s away to Esslemont
E D
For to tell on young Johnny.
E
â€œAs I came in by Monymusk,
D A E
And down among yon scrogs,
A D A D
It was there I spied the bonniest youth
E D E
Lying sleeping between two dogs.â€•

[Verse 6]

A E A
â€œAnd the buttons that were on his coat
D
Were of the gold so good,
A D A
And the two grey dogs that he lay between,
E D
Their mouths they were died with blood.â€•
E
And up and spoke the first forester,
D A E

He was headsman over them all,

A D A D

“Can this be Johnny of Brady’s Lea?

E D E

Unto him we will crawl.”

[Verse 7]

A E A

And the very first shot that the foresters fired,

D

It wounded him in the thigh,

A D A

The very next shot that the foresters fired,

E D

His heart’s blood blinded his eye.

E

Then up woke Johnny from out of his sleep,

D A E

An angry man was he.

A D A D

He says “The wildest wolf in all this wood

E D E

Would not have done so by me.”

[Verse 8]

A E A

And he’s leaned his back against an oak,

D

His foot against a stone,

A D A

And he has fired on the seven foresters,

E D

He’s killed them all but one.

E

And he’s broken seven of this man’s ribs,

D A E

His arm and his collarbone,

A D A D

And he has set him on to his horse,

E D E

To bring the tidings home.

[Verse 9]

N.C.

Johnny’s good bent bow is broke,

N.C.

And his two grey dogs are slain,

N.C.

And his body lies in Monymusk,

N.C.

And his hunting days are done.