

The Cherry Tree Carol

Version from the Coventry Mysteries
15th. Century

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1. *Mary:* A my swe - te hus - bond, wold ye tell to me What
 2. *Joseph:* For - so - the, Ma - ry it is cle - pyd a che - ry tre, In
 3. *Mary:* Turne a - gyn hus - bond and be - hol - de yon yon tre, How
 4. *Joseph:* Cum on Ma - ry, yt we worn at yon cy - te, Or
 5. *Mary:* And now my spow - se I pray yow to be - hold How

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1. tre is yon stand - yng - e up - on yon - der hill?
 2. ty - me of yer myght fede yow y on yo fyller.
 3. yt it blom - yght now so swe - tly.
 4. el - lys we may be bla - myd I tell yow lyth - ly.
 5. ye che - ry - es grow - yn up - on yon tre.

6. *Joseph:* Yor desyr to fulfyller I shall assay sekyrly,
 Ow to plucke yow of these cherries it is a werk wylder,
 For ye tre is so hyg it wol not be lyghtly,
 Y for lete hy pluk yow cheryes be gatt yow wt childe.

7. *Mary:* Now good Lotrd I pray the, graunt me is boun,
 To have of yese cherries, and it be yor wyller,
 Now I thank God, yis tre boweth to me down,
 I may now gadery anowe and etyn my fyller.

8. *Joseph:* Ow, I know weyl I have offendyd my God i trinyte,
 Spekyng to my spowse these unkynde wordys,
 For now I beleve wel it may no other be
 But yt my spowse bewryght ye Kyngys Son of blys.