



# Roving in the dew

Sussex Folk Song  
collected by  
George Butterworth

arranged  
Arthur Warrell  
(1882-1939)

**Arthur Sydney Warrell** (1882-1939) was organist and choirmaster at several prestigious churches in Bristol, a port city in the west of England. Not a prolific composer, he is best remembered for his arrangement of “We wish you a merry Christmas” (1935) which is included in the well-known Oxford publication “Carols for Choirs.”

“Where are you going to, my pretty fair maid,  
Red rosy cheeks and coal-black hair?”  
“I’m going a-milking, kind sir,” she answered me,  
“For roving the dew makes the milkmaids fair.”

“What is your father then, my pretty fair maid,  
Red rosy cheeks and coal-black hair?”  
“My father’s a farmer, kind sir,” she answered me,  
“For roving in the dew makes the milk-maids fair.”

“What is your mother then, my pretty fair maid,  
Red rosy cheeks and coal-black hair?”  
“The wife of my father, kind sir,” she answered me,  
“For roving in the dew makes the milkmaids fair.”

“May I come along with you, my pretty fair maid,  
Red rosy cheeks and coal-black hair?”  
“Just as it please you, kind sir,” she answered me,  
“For roving in the dew makes the milkmaids fair.”

“Suppose I ran away from you, my pretty fair maid,  
Red rosy cheeks and coal-black hair?”  
“The devil may run after you, and I will stand and laugh at you,  
For roving in the dew makes the milkmaids fair.”

Traditional Sussex Folk Song

# Roving in the dew

arr. Arthur Warrell

**Con anima**

T Tenor *mf*

“Where are you go - ing to, my pret - ty fair \_\_\_ maid, Red ro - sy cheeks and

S Soprano *mf*

“I’m going a-milk - ing, kind sir,” she an - swered me, “For

T

coal - black hair?” “Where are you go - ing, my pret - ty fair \_\_\_ maid,

S

rov - ing in the dew makes the milk - maids fair.”

A Alto *p*

“fair, \_\_\_\_\_

T

Red ro - sy cheeks and coal - black hair?” “What is your fa - ther then,

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10

S *mf* "My

A makes the milk - maids fair." "My

T 8 my pret - ty fair — maid, Red ro - sy cheeks and coal - black hair?"

13

S fa - ther's a farm - er, kind sir," she an - swered me, "For rov - ing in the dew makes the

A fa - ther's a farm - er, kind sir," she an - swered me, "For rov - ing in the dew makes the

T 8 Red ro - sy cheeks and coal - black hair?" Ro - sy cheeks and

16

S milk - maids fair."

A milk - maids fair." *p* "What is your mo - ther then, my pret - ty fair — maid,

T 8 coal - black hair?" *p*

B Bass *mf* "What is your mo - ther then, my pret - ty fair — maid,

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19

S *mf* "The wife of my fa - ther,

A ro - sy cheeks, coal - black hair?" "The wife \_\_\_ of my fa - ther,

T *mf* Red cheeks, coal - black hair?" "The wife \_\_\_ of my fa - ther,

B Red ro - sy cheeks and coal - black hair?" "Where are you

22

S kind sir," she an - swered me, "For ro - ving in the dew makes the milk - maids fair."

A kind sir," she an - swered me, "For ro - ving in the dew makes the milk - maids fair."

T kind sir," she an - swered me, "For ro - ving in the dew makes the milk - maids fair."

B go - ing to, my pret - - - - ty fair maid,

25

S

A

T "May I come a-long with you, my pret - ty fair \_\_\_ maid, Red ro - sy cheeks and  
"May I come with you,

B "May I come with you, Red cheeks \_ and

## Roving in the dew

28 *mf*

S "Just as you please sir, kind sir," she an - swered me, "For

A "Just as it please you," she an - swered me, "For

T 8 coal - black hair?"

B coal - black hair?"

31 *Tutti* *p* "Sup - pose I

S rov - ing in the dew makes the milk - maids fair." "Sup - pose I

A rov - ing in the dew makes the milk - maids fair." "Sup - pose I

T 8 "Sup - pose I ran a - way from you,

B

34 ran a - way,

S Red cheeks, coal - black hair?" "The

A ran a - way from you, Red cheeks and coal - black hair?" "The

T 8 my pret - ty fair maid, Red ro - sy cheeks and coal - black hair?" "The

B *mp* Red cheeks, coal - black hair?" "The

# Roving in the dew

37

S dev - il may run af - ter you, and I will stand and laugh at you, For

A dev - il may run af - ter you, and I will stand and laugh at you, For

T 8 dev - il may run af - ter you, and I will stand and laugh at you, For

B dev - il may run af - ter you, and I will stand and laugh at you, For

39 *rall.*

S rov - ing in the dew makes the milk - maids fair."

A *rall.* rov - ing in the dew makes the milk - maids fair."

T *rall.* 8 rov - ing in the dew makes the milk - maids fair."

B *rall.* rov - ing in the dew makes the milk - maids fair."

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