

The May Day Carol

<https://riverofsong.uk/>

Many delightful May Day songs can be found throughout the UK each with its own tradition and often dancing too.

With its roots in England this version, with a little tweaking, is from the singing of Jean Richie. Sam Gleaves who is steeped in Appalachian music and plays the mountain dulcimer wrote this chorus. Check him out [here](#), he sings so beautifully!

I've been a-wan-d'rin'— all of the night And the best part of the day, And— when I re- turn back—
home a— gain, I will bring you a bunch of— May! *Chorus* And we'll sing in the month of May, And we'll
sing in the month—of— May. And we'll sing in the month of May— As we wel- come a new Spring— Day.

I've been a-wand'rin' all of the night,
And the best part of the day;
And when I return back home again
I will bring you a branch of May.

A branch of May I will bring you, my love,
As at your door I stand;
It's nothing but a sprout but it's well budded out
By the work of the Lord's own hand.

*Chorus: And we'll sing in the month of May,
And we'll sing in the month of May,
And we'll sing in the month of May,
As we welcome a new Spring day.*

In my pocket I hold a purse,
Tied up with a silver string,
It only wants a few more pence
To line it well within!

The moon shines bright and the stars give light
A little before the day.
So bless you all both great and small,
And send you a joyful May. *Chorus*

