

When You Go A-Courtin'

American folk song
arr. Jeffrey Benson

Piano



5 *unis.*

TB When you go a-court-in' I'll tell you where to go, Down to the old man's house be-low.

The vocal part begins at measure 5 with "When you go a-court-in' I'll tell you where to go, Down to the old man's house be-low." The piano accompaniment continues with its characteristic eighth-note patterns.

Young folks gig - glin' and

9 *mp* Young folks gig-glin' and the old folks gone, and the gals all mad with their

The vocal part continues with "Young folks gig - glin' and" and then "Young folks gig-glin' and the old folks gone, and the gals all mad with their". The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support.

heads not combed, the gals all mad with their heads not combed.

The vocal part concludes with "heads not combed, the gals all mad with their heads not combed." The piano accompaniment ends with a final chord.

16 *unis. mf*

S A

Lou-si-an-a gals come and lis-ten to my voice:

21 Don't go mar-ry those Tex - as boys, for if you do your for-tune will be

“Don’t mar-ry those boys,” oo

25 John-ny cake, ven-i-son, and sas-sa-fras tea.

John-ny cake, ven-i-son, and sas-sa-fras tea, John - ny cake and sas-sa-fras tea.

29 *unis. mp*

T B

The old dirt - y clothes were

mp

Johnny cake was an early American staple of cornmeal flatbread; it is still popular in the New England states.
Sassafras is a kind of tree; its roots can be used for flavoring tea.

Venison is the meat of wild animals, particularly deer.

32 *unis. mp*

Soprano (S) and Alto (A) sing: the house not swept, for we had no broom; had a long-tail coat, Lord,

Bass (T) and Tenor (B) sing: hang-in' on a loom, had a long-tail coat, Lord,

36

Soprano (S) and Alto (A) sing: greasy all a-round, and an old leath-er bon-net with a hole in the crown, an

Bass (T) and Tenor (B) sing: greasy all a-round, and an old leath-er bon-net with a hole in the crown, an

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39

Soprano (S) and Alto (A) sing: old leath-er bon-net with a hole in the crown.

Bass (T) and Tenor (B) sing: old leath-er bon-net with a hole in the crown.

mf

8th = 1

Simply
mp $\text{♩} = 80$

43 rit.

When they go to preach-in', let me tell ya what they wear,

An

rit.

$\text{♩} = 80$

p

47 f a tempo

An old straw hat, more brim than crown, and a

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f

old leath-er coat all picked and bare,

and a

a tempo

51

pair of dirt - y socks that we've worn the win-ter round, a pair of dirt - y socks,

pair of dirt - y socks that we've worn the win-ter round, a pair of dirt - y socks, a

54

a pair of dirt-y socks?

pair of dirt-y socks? a pair of dirt-y socks that we've worn the win-ter

57

Lou - si-an-a gals, come and lis - ten to my voice,

round. C'mon all you guys who

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61

we might mar - ry those Tex - as boys, but if we do our

call your-self my pals, Let's go mar - ry those Lou-si - an - a gals, but

64

for-tune shall be, John-ny cake, ven-i-son, and sas-sa-fras tea, and
if we do our for-tune shall be John-ny cake, ven-i-son, and

67

John-ny cake, ven-i-son and sas-sa-fras tea, and sas-sa-fras sas-sa-fras,
sas-sa-fras tea, and John-ny cake, ven-i-son, and sas-sa-fras tea,

70 *poco rit.*

a tempo

sas-sa-fras sas-sa-fras tea. _____ Sas-sa-fras tea, ***
sas-sa-fras sas-sa-fras tea. _____ Sas-sa-fras, Johnny cake,

poco rit.

a tempo *mp*

* TB divide into 3 parts; m. 74 SA divide into 4 parts ** Sustain "tea" through the fermata at m. 77.

73

A1 A2

Sas-sa-fras tea,

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76

S1 S2

Sas-sa-fras tea,

John-ny cake, ven - i - son, and sas-sa-fras tea.

A1 A2

John-ny cake, ven - i - son, and sas-sa-fras tea.

T B

John-ny cake, ven - i - son, and sas-sa-fras tea.