

COME ALL YE FAIR AND TENDER LADIES

Old-Time Ballad; **DATE:** Early 1900's; **RECORDED BY:** Roscoe Holcomb; Hedy West; Jean Ritchie; Mike Seeger; **OTHER NAMES:** Willow Tree; Young and Tender Ladies; Come All Fair Maids; Come All You Maidens Fair and Tender Ladies; Little Sparrow; **NOTES:** Once a popular Appalachian song. Cecil Sharp collected eighteen versions which appear in *English Folk Songs from the Southern Appalachians*.

Come all ye fair_____ and ten - der lad - ies Take warn - ing
how_____ you court your men They're like a star_____ on a sum - mer
morn - ing They first ap - pear_____ and then they're gone.____

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G **D**
Come all ye fair and tender ladies, Take warning how you court your men
Am **G** **Am** **G**
They're like a star on a summer morning, They first appear and then they're gone.

G
They'll tell to you some loving story
D
And they'll make you think that they love you well
Am **G** **Am** **G**
And away they'll go and court some other, And leave you there in grief to dwell.

I wish I was on some tall mountain, Where the ivy rocks were black as ink
I'd write a letter to my false true lover, Whose cheeks are like the morning pink.

I wish I was a little sparrow, And I had wings to fly so high
I'd fly to the arms of my false true lover, And when he'd ask, I would deny.

Oh love is handsome, love is charming, And love is pretty while it's new
But love grows cold as love grows old, And fades away like morning dew.