

# SHADY GROVE (MAJOR KEY)

Traditional Old-Time and Bluegrass Song; **DATE:** Late 1800's; **CATEGORY:** Early Country and Bluegrass Songs; **RECORDING INFO:** Henry Whittier (Western Country)- 1924; Kentucky Thorobreds- 1927; Clarence Tom Ashley; David Grisman and Jerry Garcia; Kentucky Colonels; Kingston Trio; Charlie Moore; New Lost City Ramblers; Doc Watson; Jean Ritchie; **OTHER NAMES:** Western Country; **NOTES:** Categorized by Meade under *Fly Around my Pretty Little Miss*, this bluegrass favorite is usually played up-tempo in a major key. Doc Watson and others do a version in a minor key that is slower. The song first appears under the Shady Grove title in *Journal of American Folklore* in 1915. First recorded as Shady Grove by Kentucky Thorobreds in 1927, the song was recorded as Western Country by Henry Whittier in 1924. Shady Grove has floating lyrics with many similar songs.

G C G  
Sha - dy Grove my lit - tle love Sha - dy Grove I say

G C G D G  
Sha - dy Grove my lit - tle love I'm bound to go a - way.

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G C G  
Shady Grove, my little love, Shady Grove I say  
G C G D G  
Shady Grove, my little love, I'm bound to go away.

When I was a little boy, I wanted a Barlow knife  
Now I want little Shady Grove to say she'll be my wife.

Cut a banjo from a gourd, string it up with twine  
The only song that I can play is "Wish that gal was mine".

Apples in the summer time, peaches in the fall  
If I can't have the girl I love, I don't want none at all.

Cheeks as red as a bloomin rose, Eyes of the deepest brown,  
You are the darlin of my heart, Stay till the Sun goes down.

Shady Grove, my little love, Shady Grove my darlin,  
Shady Grove, my little love, I'm going away to Harlan.

Went to see my Shady Grove, she was standing in the door,  
Shoes and stockings in her hand, little bare feet on the floor.