

## Holly Tree

Dar Williams

When the robin builds in the holly tree  
It's a sign of life, its gentle victory  
Well, today as I set to go  
I saw a nest in a tree hollow

Oh Emily, you're a brave girl  
With your husband gone to the other world  
Sing a hymn while I light the fire  
We'll be joined by a heavenly choir

Here's the tansy and the chamomile tea for you to drink  
As the pain increases, well you only have to think  
About a baby. We'll save the baby

I placed a holly sprig by the doctor's door  
He has done this well and many times before  
He'll be careful which way he goes  
But he's been kind to us farm widows

And this I heard just the other day  
That they came to buy, and you chose to stay  
Soon a child will help you reap and sow  
May he cast a long shadow

But you say the trials are coming, you have felt the gathering  
forces  
And the galloping you hear is of one too many horses  
But rest your head my darling girl, there won't be any danger  
Any Christian ever loved an infant in a manger  
Saves the baby. They'll save the baby

Now the pastor comes, shakes the farmer's hand  
Says, "The earth will bear like the promised land"  
You have heard the stories down below  
But God will bless this farm hollow?

Now the farmer's wife shudders, pulls the shawl up to her shoul-  
der  
Every time she nears the hearth she feels a little colder  
Where's the baby? There was a baby