

# The Lady of Carlisle

## Fairport Convention

Down in Carlisle there lived a lady  
She was beautiful and gay  
She was determined to stay a lady  
No man on earth could her betray

Unless it was a man of honour  
A man of honour and high degree  
And there approached two lucky soldiers  
This fair young lady for to see

One being a brave lieutenant  
A brave lieutenant and a man of war  
The other being a bold sea captain  
Captain of a ship that had come from afar

And then up spoke that brave young lady  
Saying, "I can be but one man's bride  
If you'll come back tomorrow morning  
On this case we will decide"

She ordered her a span of horses  
A span of horses at her command  
And down the road these three together  
They rode 'til they come to the lion's den

And there they stopped and there they halted  
Those two soldiers stood gazing around  
And for the space of a half-an-hour  
That young lady lay speechless on the ground

And when she did recover  
Threw her fan in the lions' den  
Saying, "Which of you to gain a lady  
Will return my fan again"

And then up spoke that brave lieutenant  
He raised his voice both loud and clear  
He said, "I know I am a dear lover of women  
I will not risk my life for love"

And then up spoke that bold sea captain  
He raised his voice both loud and high  
He said, "I know I am a dear lover of women  
I will return your fan or die"

In the lions' den he boldly entered  
The lions being both wild and fierce  
He walked unharmed and in a moment  
He did return her fan again

And when she saw her lover coming  
Seeing no harm to him was done  
She laid her head all upon his bosom  
"Take the prize that you have won"