

Old Joe Clark
words

Chorus (one of many):

Fare thee well, Old Joe Clark, Fare thee well I say
Fare thee well, Old Joe Clark, I'm a' going away

Verses to "Old Joe Clark"

Old Joe was the preacher's son, preached all over the plain
The only text he ever used was "High low Jack" and the game

I used to live in a boarding house, now I live in town
I'm boarding at the big hotel and courting Betsy Brown

When I was a little girl, I used to play with toys
Now that I'm a bigger girl, I'd rather play with boys

When I was a little boy, I used to want a knife
Now that I'm a bigger boy, I only want a wife

Wish I was a sugar tree, standin' in the middle of some town
Every time a pretty girl passed I'd shake some sugar down

Old Joe had a yellow cat, she would not sing or pray
She stuck her head in a buttermilk jar and washed her sins away

I wish I had a sweetheart, I'd set her on the shelf
And every time she smiled at me I'd get up there myself

I went down to Old Joe's house, fifteen stories high
And every story in that house was filled with chicken pie

I went down to Old Joe's house, never been there before
He slept on the featherbed and I slept on the floor

Old Joe Clark had a cow, she was as long as a rail
It took a blackbird one whole day to fly from head to tail

Old Joe Clark had a mule, his name was Morgan Brown
And every tooth in that mule's head was sixteen inches round

Old Joe Clark had a dog, as blind as he could be
Chased a redbug 'round a stump and a coon up a hollow tree