

Dives and Lazarus
English carol.

As it fell out upon one day,
Rich Dive s made a feast,
And he invited all his friends,
And gentry of the best.

Then Lazarus laid him down and down
And down at Dive s' door:
"Some meat and drink, brother, Diverus,
Bestow upon the poor."

"Thou'rt none of my brothers, Lazarus,
That liest begging at my door;
No meat, nor drink will I give thee,
Nor bestow upon the poor."

Then Lazarus laid him down and down,
All under Dive s' wall:
"Some meat, some drink, brother Diverus,
For hunger starve I shall."

"Thou'rt none of my brothers, Lazarus,
That liest begging at my gate;
No meat, no drink will I give thee,
For Jesus Christ His sake."

Then Dive s sent out his hungry dogs,
To bite him as he lay;
They hadn't the power to bite one bite,
But licked his sores away.

Then Dive s sent to his merry men,
To worry poor Lazarus away;
They'd not the power to strike one stroke,
But flung their whips away.

As it fell out upon one day,
Poor Lazarus sickened and died;
There came two angels out of Heaven,
His soul therein to guide.

"Rise up! rise up! brother Lazarus,
And go along with me;
For you've a place prepared in Heaven,
To sit on an angel's knee."

As it fell out upon one day,
Rich Dive s sickened and died;
There came two serpents out of hell,
His soul therein to guide.

"Rise up! rise up! brother Diverus,
And come along with me;
There is a place provided in hell
For wicked men like thee."

Then Dive s looked up with his eyes
And saw poor Lazarus blest;
"Give me one drop of water, brother Lazarus,
To quench my flaming thirst."

"O, was I now but alive again
The space of one half hour!
O, that I had my peace again
Then the devil should have no power."