

# Folk & Traditional Song Lyrics

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## Once I Knew a Pretty Girl

Once I Knew a Pretty Girl

Once I knew a pretty girl, I loved her as my life  
I'd gladly give my heart and hand  
To make her my wife, oh to make her my wife

She took me by the hand, she led me to the door  
She put her arms around me  
Saying, "Please don't come no more, please come no more"

Well I'd not been gone for about six months  
When she did complain  
And she wrote me a letter  
Saying, "Please come back again, oh please come again"

And I wrote her an answer just to let her know  
That no young man should venture  
Where once he could not go, oh where once he could not go

So come all ye young lovers take a warning from me  
And never place your affection  
On a green growing tree, oh on a green growing tree

"Cause the leaves they will wither, roots will decay  
And the beauty of a young maid  
Will soon fade away, oh soon fade away

recorded by Joan Baez  
SOF