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Oxford City

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In Oxford City lived a lady And she was beautiful and fair Oh, she was courted by a sailor And he did love her as his dear

He said, "My dear, let us get married Let us now no longer stay I'll work for you both late and early If you my wedded bride will be"

The girl she loved him, but at a distance She did not seem to be quite so fond He said, "My dear, you seem to slight me I'm sure you love some other man"

He saw her dancing with some other A jealous thought came to his mind And to destroy his own true love He gave to her a glass of wine

So soon she drank it, so soon she felt it "Oh hold me fast, my dear," said she "Is it that glass of wine you gave me Takes my innocent life away?"

"That glass of wine now which I gave you That glass of wine did strong poison hide For if you won't be my true lover You'll never be no other man's bride

"That glass of wine which now I gave you It's I have drinked of the same," he said "So in each other's arms we'll die together To warn young men of jealousy"

"Oh hark, oh hark, the cocks are crowing The daylight now will soon appear And into my cold grave I'm going And it's you, Willie, who called me here" Laws P30 printed in Penguin Book of English Folk Songs By Williams and Lloyd SOF