

# Terrible Tragedy - song lyrics

American Old-time song lyrics from [www.traditionalmusic.co.uk](http://www.traditionalmusic.co.uk)

TERRIBLE TRAGEDY.  
Sung by Louise Sanford.

A long time to come,  
I remember it well,  
All alone in a poorhouse  
A maiden did dwell;  
She lived with her father  
And mother serene,  
Her age it was red and her  
Hair was nineteen.

Now this girl had a lover.  
Who close by did dwell;  
A banty-back roaster  
And hump-legged as well.  
Said he, fly with me  
By the light of yon star.  
For you are the eye  
Or my apple you are.

Now the beautiful maiden  
Said gently, be wise.  
Or my father will scratch  
Out his nails with your eyes.  
If you love me so you'll not  
Cause me disgrace,  
Cried the girl as she  
Buried her hands in her face.

When the girl she refused him,  
He knocked down the maid,  
Then quickly he opened the  
Knife of his blade;  
And he soon cut the throat  
Of this damsel so fair,  
Then he dragged her around  
By the head of the hair.

Now just at this moment  
The old man appears,  
He gazed at the sight there,  
With eyes in his tears;  
He knelt down beside her and  
The cold corpse kissed,  
Then he rushed with his  
Throat at the murderer's fist.

The old man ordered  
The villain to bolt,  
He drew a horse pistol  
He'd raised from a "colt."  
The villain he ran for the  
Chimney, that's true,  
Said he, now I'll fly,  
So he flew up the flue.