

My Husband's Got No Courage In Him

1. As I went out one May morning,
To view the fields and leaves a-springing,
I saw two maidens standing by
And one of them her hands was wringing.

Chorus:

Oh dear-o ! oh dear-o !
My husband's got no courage in him.
Oh dear-o !

2. Me husband's admired wherever he goes
And everyone looks well upon him,
With his handsome features and
 well-shaped leg
But still he's got no courage in him.

3. Me husband can dance and caper and sing
And do anything that's fitting for him,
But he cannot do the thing I want
Because he's got no courage in him.

4. All sorts of vittles I did provide,
A sorts of meats that's fitting for him
With oyster pie and rhubarb too,
But still he's got no courage in him.

5. Every night when I goes to bed
I lie and throw me leg right o'er him
And me hand I clamp between his thighs,
But I can't put any courage in him.

6. Seven long years I've made his bed
And every night I've lain beside him,
But this morning I rose with me maidenhead
For still he's got no courage in him.

7. I wish me husband he was dead
And in his grave I'd quickly lay him
And then I'd find another one
That had a little courage in him.

8. So all ye maids come listen to me,
Don't marry a man before you've tried him
Or else you'll sing this song like me,
Me husband's got no courage in him.

"The Husband with no Courage in Him", also known as "My Husband's Got No Courage in Him" or "Oh Dear Oh" is an English (perhaps Scottish) mildly bawdy song.

A.L. Lloyd's comment on his 1956 album:

"Here is one of the hidden love songs of Britain, a song collected several times yet never considered fit to print. In it, a wife laments the sexual shortcomings of her husband. This kind of candour is not uncommon in Oriental song. On printed evidence it seems rare in West European musical folklore."

It appears in the **Roud Folk Song Index** as #870.

It was recorded by A.L. Lloyd on **The Foggy Dew and Other Traditional English Love Songs** (1956), Louis Killen on **Edinburgh Folk Festival Vol. 2** (1964), Heather Wood on **Oberlin 1968** (a recording of the Young Tradition's concert at Oberlin College, Ohio) (2013) and Maddy Prior and June Tabor on **Silly Sisters** (1976).