
"The Bride is a Bonnie Thing", also known as "The Bride's a Bonny Thing" or "The Bride has a Bonny Thing" or "The Lads of this Town" is an Scottish and Shetland march or jig in A mixolydian. It is played in AEae or standard fiddle tuning. The parts are played AABB (Bremner, Brody, Cooke) or AAB (Gow).

It is a Scottish tune played on the Shetland Island of Unst as a march; it is a variation of the tune of the same name printed in early Scottish collections. John Stickle played the tune in the key of G; Tom Anderson in A (AEae).

It was traditionally played to welcome the bride into the ben (best) room after the wedding and thus has had some renewed currency in modern times as a wedding processional among traditional enthusiasts.

The piece appears in James Oswald's collection, but Glen finds it first printed by Robert Bremner in his 1757 **Scots Reels**. That volume was issued the same year that London publishers Charles and Samuel Thompson printed the tune in their **Compleat Collection of 200 Favourite Country Dances, vol. 1** (1757), under the somewhat risqué title "The Bride has a Bonnie Thing". This tune may be the ancestor of the Shetland tune "Da Bride's a Bonnie Ting".

James Oswald again printed the tune a few years later in his **Caledonian Pocket Companion** (Book VIII, p. 21, London, 1760) with the same title the Thompson's employed (which appears to have been the original one).

A Highland bagpipe version can be found in Glasgow piper, pipe teacher and pipe-maker William Gunn's **Caledonian Repository of Music** (1848) as "The Lads of this Town".

It was printed in Anderson & Swing's **Haand Me Doon da Fiddle** (1979), Bremner's **Scots Reels** (c. 1757), Carlin's **The Gow Collection** (1986), Cooke's **The Fiddle Tradition of the Shetland Isles** (1986), Gow's **Complete Repository, Part 3** (1806) (as "The Bride has a Bonny Thing"), Thompson's **Compleat Collection of 200 Favourite Country Dances, vol. 1** (1757).

It was recorded by Tom Anderson and Aly Bain on **The Silver Bow** (1993) and The Boys of the Lough on **The Boys of the Lough** (1973).