



Bryan O'Lynn (2)


A



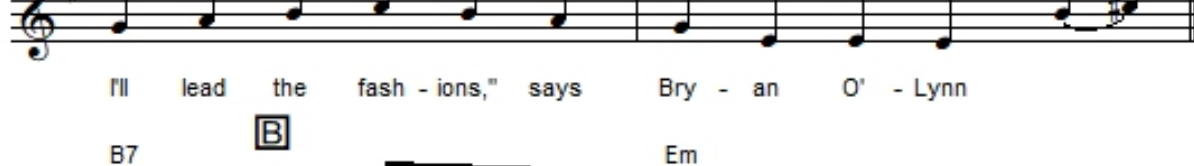
Em B7
Bry - an O' - Lynn was a gen - tie - man born, - He



Em
lived at a time when no clothes they were worn, But as

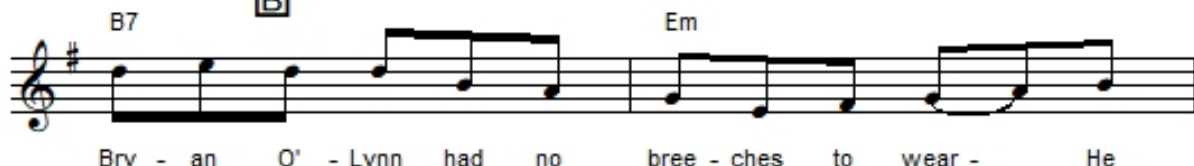


B7
fash - ion went out, of course Bry - an walked in, "Whoo!-



Em
I'll lead the fash - ions," says Bry - an O' - Lynn

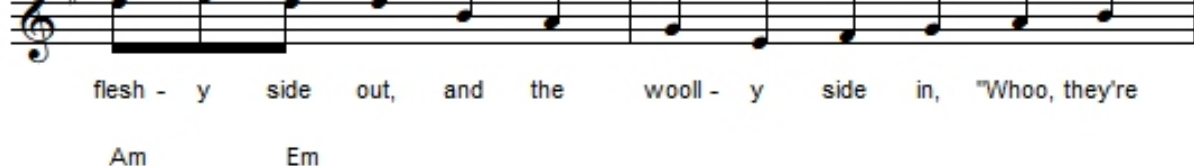
B



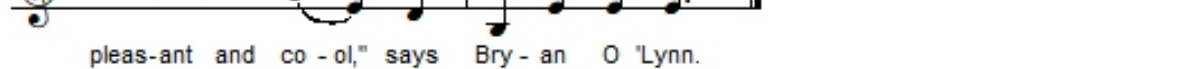
B7 Em
Bry - an O' - Lynn had no bree - ches to wear - He



Am
got him a sheep - skin to make him a pair, With the



B7 Em
flesh - y side out, and the wooll - y side in, "Whoo, they're



Am Em
pleas - ant and co - ol," says Bry - an O' Lynn.

1. Bryan O'Lynn was a gentleman born,
He lived at a time when no clothes they were worn,
But as fashion went out, of course Bryan walked in,
"I'll soon lead the fashions," says Bryan O'Lynn.
 Bryan O'Lynn had no breeches to wear
 He got a sheepskin for to make him a pair,
 With the fleshy side out, and the woolly side in,
 "They're pleasant and cool," says Bryan O'Lynn.
2. Bryan O'Lynn had no shirt to his back,
He went to a neighbor's and borrowed a sack,
Then he puckered the meal bag up under his chin,
"They'll take them for ruffles," says Bryan O'Lynn.
 Bryan O'Lynn had no hat to his head,
 He thought that the pot would do him instead,
 Then he murdered a cod for the sake of its fin,
 "twill pass for a feather," says Bryan O'Lynn.
3. Bryan O'Lynn was hard up for a coat,
He borrowed a skin of a neighboring goat,
With the horns sticking out from his oxters, and then,
"They'll take them for pistols," says Bryan O'Lynn.
 Bryan O'Lynn had no stockings to wear,
 He bought a rat's skin to make him a pair,
 He then drew them over his manly shin,
 They're illegant wear," says Bryan O'Lynn.
4. Bryan O'Lynn had no brogues to his toes,
He hopped on two crab shells to serve him for those,
Then he split up two oysters that matched just like twins,
"They'll shine out like buckles," says Bryan O'Lynn.
 Bryan O'Lynn had no watch to put on,
 He scooped out a turnip to make him a one,
 Then he planted a cricket in under the skin -
 "They'll think it's a-ticking," says Bryan O'Lynn.
5. Bryan O'Lynn to his house had no door,
He'd the sky for a roof and the bog for a floor,
He'd a way to jump out, and a way to swim in,
"Tis a fine habitation," says Bryan O'Lynn.
 Bryan O'Linn went a courtin' one night
 And he set both the mother and daughter to fight.
 To fight for his hand they both stripped to the skin
 "Sure I'll marry yis both," says Bryan O'Linn
6. Bryan O'Linn went to take his wife home
All he had was an oul nag t'was all skin and bone.
"I'll put her before me as neat as a pin
And her mother behind me," says Bryan O'Linn.
 Bryan O'Lynn, his wife, and wife's mother,
 They all lay down in the bed together,
 The sheets they were cold and the blankets were thin
 "Well, I'll sleep in the middle," says Bryan O'Lynn.

"Bryan O'Lynn", in Gaelic "*Briain Ua Rloinn*", is an Irish comic song in E minor and 6/8 time.

This is not the same tune as the Dorian mode double jig of the same name.

Bryan O'Lynn is probably the Irish version of the Scottish song "Tom o' the Linn".

Other variants of "Tom o' the Linn" are "Tom O'lin", "Thom of Lyn", "Tamlene" or "Tam Lin".

The oldest printed version may in be Ritson's **The North Country Chorister** (1802).

The Tom a lyn character is related to Tom Thumb, the English version of the trickster dwarf that appears in stories throughout Europe.

Some versions of this are considered to be a children's song.

There are multiple versions of the tune, some eight measures and some sixteen measures long.

In the nineteenth century it was printed and sold on broadside sheets.

It was printed in Reeves' **The Everlasting Circle** (1960), Baring-Gould's **Songs of the West** (1913), Huntington's **Sam Henry's Songs of the People** (1990) and Roud and Bishop's **The New Penguin Book of English Folk Songs** (2012).

It was recorded by Eliza Pace of Hyden, Leslie County, Kentucky (1937) (as Tom Boleyn), Jack Fuller of Laughton, near Lewes, Sussex (recorded by Peter Kennedy as Briny O'Then), (1952), Thomas Moran of Mohill, County Leitrim, sang Brian O'Lynn to Séamus Ennis in 1954, Séamus Ennis on **A Jug of Punch: Broadside Ballads Old and New** (1960), Jim Porter on **Just Another Saturday Night** (1965) and Jim Eldon on **I Wish There Was No Prisons** (1983).