

## Gypsy Davy - accompaniment

Capo 2



1. It was late last night when the boss came home  
Askin' for his lady  
The only answer that he got,  
"She's gone with the Gypsy Davey,  
She's gone with the Gypsy Dave."
2. Go saddle for me a buckskin horse  
And a hundred dollar saddle.  
Point out to me their wagon tracks  
And after them I'll travel,  
After them I'll ride.
3. Well I had not rode to the midnight moon,  
When I saw the campfire gleaming.  
I heard the notes of the big guitar  
And the voice of the gypsies singing  
That song of the Gypsy Dave.
4. There in the light of the camping fire,  
I saw her fair face beaming.  
Her heart in tune with the big guitar  
And the voice of the gypsies singing  
That song of the Gypsy Dave.
5. Have you forsaken your house and home?  
Have you forsaken your baby?  
Have you forsaken your husband dear  
To go with the Gypsy Davy?  
And sing with the Gypsy Davy?  
The song of the Gypsy Dave?
6. Yes I've forsaken my husband dear  
To go with the Gypsy Davy,  
And I've forsaken my mansion high  
But not my blue-eyed baby,  
Not my blue-eyed baby.
7. She smiled to leave her husband dear  
And go with the Gypsy Davy;  
But the tears come a-trickling down her cheeks  
To think of the blue-eyed baby,  
Pretty little blue-eyed baby.
8. Take off, take off your buckskin gloves  
Made of Spanish leather;  
Give to me your lily-white hair  
And we'll ride home together  
We'll ride home again.
9. No, I won't take off my buckskin gloves,  
They're made of Spanish leather.  
I'll go my way from day to day  
And sing with the Gypsy Davy  
That song of the Gypsy Davy,  
That song of the Gypsy Davy,  
That song of the Gypsy Davy.

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"Gypsy Davey" is an American version of "The Wraggle Taggle Gypsies" (Child 200), a Scottish border ballad that has spread throughout Britain, Ireland and North America. The earliest text may be "The Gypsy Loddy", published in the **Roxburghe Ballads** of 1720, and Allan Ramsay's **Tea-Table Miscellany** of 1740, which included the ballad as "The Gypsy Johnny Faa". It was printed in Sharp's **One Hundred English Folksongs**.

American versions are known as "Gypsy Davey" or "Black Jack Davey".

The tunes are different but the story is the same. There have been numerous recordings of both this version, "Gypsy Davey" and "Black Jack Davey" by Woody Guthrie, The Carter Family, Pete Seeger, Peggy Seeger, The New Lost City Ramblers, Jean Ritchie, The Chieftains and many others.

I learned "Gypsy Davey" from Woody Guthrie.