

## Down by the Salley Gardens

C C G7 F C F G7 C  
It was down by the Salley gar-dens, my love and I did meet.

C G7 F C F G7 C  
She crossed the Salley gar-dens, with little snow-white feet.

Am F Em C F G7 C  
She bid me take love eas-y, as the leaves grow on the tree,

C G7 F C F G7 C  
But I was young and fool-ish, and with her did not agree.

C G7 F C F G7 C  
In a field down by the river, my love and I did stand  
C G7 F C F G7 C  
And on my leaning shoulder, she laid her snow-white hand.

Am F Em C F G7 C  
She bid me take life eas-y, as the grass grows on the weirs  
C G7 F C F G7 C  
But I was young and fool-ish, and now am full of tears.

The lyrics to the Salley Gardens are among the simplest you will find in Irish music. They tell the story of a young man who falls in love with a girl but loses her because he tries to push the relationship on too quickly. The lyrics were originally written by W B Yeats as a poem. The music was added later. Salley means willow so the salley gardens are simply an area where willows were grown for use in making thatched roofs

The musical notation is presented in three staves. The first staff contains the first line of the song, with a first ending bracket over the final measure. The second staff contains the second line, with a second ending bracket over the first measure. The third staff contains the third line. Chords are indicated above the notes. The melody is written in a simple, folk style.