

Ye Banks and Braes

Ye banks and braes o' bonnie Doon, How ye can bloom so fresh and fair? How can ye chant ye little birds, And I sae weary fu' o' care? Thou'lt break my heart thou warbling birds, That wantons thro' the flowering thorn; Thou minds me o' departed joys, Departed — never to return!

Aft hae I rov'd by bonnie Doon, To see the rose and woodbine twine; And ilka bird sang o' its love, And fondly sae did I o' mine! Wi' lightsome heart I pu'd a rose, Fu' sweet upon its thorny tree; But my false lover stole my rose, But ah! he left the thorn wi' me. The subject of this song by Burns was a Miss Kennedy of Dalgarrock the niece of a baronet, who fell for a landed gentleman from Wigtownshire. She became pregnant and was abandoned, and eventually died of a broken heart. Ye Banks and Braes