

Iron Angels

Sleep now my bonny bairn
Your daddy's keel swift plies the Tyne
Best close your eyes and dream a while
Sleep bonny babe of mine

For all too soon the child's a man
With work to do and bairns to keep
No fairy tales for you my lad
Iron Angels guard you while you sleep

Sleep now my bonny bairn
Our Jimmy's hewing down the mine
His days are nights, dark as the coal
Sleep bonny babe of mine

Sleep now my bonny bairn
Our Mary's loom weaves thread so fine
She scarce can see when she comes home
Sleep bonny babe of mine

Sleep now, my bonny bairn
Once Mammy's heart was blithe like thine
But now I've naught save toil and cares
Sleep bonny babe of mine

Sleep now my bonny bairn
The mill, mine, shipyard, railway line
They wait to snare you when you're grown
Sleep bonny babe of mine

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