

# O Love Is Such a Funny Thing

As Sung by  
Noble B. Brown

Originally in C  
11-17-1946 Millsford, WI

Verse

Oh, love is such a ve - ry fun - ny thing, and it cat - ches the young and the  
old. — It's just like a plate of boar - ding house hash, and to ma - ny a man 'tis  
sold. — It makes you fe - el like a fresh water eel, and it cau - ses your head to  
swell. — You lose your mind for love is blind, and it emp - ties your poc - ket book as

Refrain

well. — Then boys keep a - way from the girls, I say, give them plen - ty of room. — For  
when you're wed they'll bang you 'til your dead with the bald head - ed end of a broom. —

## Verse 1

Oh, love is such a very funny thing,  
And it catches the young and the old.  
It's just like a plate of boarding house hash,  
And to many a man 'tis sold.  
It makes you feel like a fresh water eel,  
And it causes your head to swell.  
You lose your mind for love is blind,  
And it empties your pocket book as well.

## Refrain

Then boys keep away from the girls, I say.  
Give them plenty of room.  
For when you're wed they'll bang you 'til your dead  
With the bald headed end of a broom.

(Lyrics continued next page)

## Verse 2.

When a man goes out with a pretty little girl,  
 He talks just as gentle as a dove.  
 He spends all his money and he calls her his honey  
 To show that he's solid in his love.  
 When his money's all gone and his clothes in the hock,  
 You'll find the old saying is true,  
 That a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush  
 But what is he going to do.  
 (Refrain)

## Coda (music from the beginning of verse)

Girls keep away from the boys, I say,  
 Give them plenty of room.  
 For when they're wed they'll dirty up your bed,  
 (Laughter)  
 And make quite a mess of your room.

## Verse 3.

When married folks have lots of cash  
 The love is firm and strong,  
 But when they have to feed on hash  
 The love don't last so long.  
 With a wife and seventeen half starved kids  
 I'll tell you 'tis no fun,  
 When the butcher comes around to collect his bills  
 With a dog and a double barreled gun.  
 (added stanza)  
 Now young men take my advice  
 Don't be in a hurry to wed.  
 'Til the honeymoon is over, you'll think your in clover,  
 And then you'll think you're dead.  
 (Refrain)

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## Critical Commentary

### HST notes:

In the Professional Papers series:

*Noble B. Brown. Used to sing this at home, learned from his mother. Last verse -temporaneous [illegible]. About 8 years at sea.*

### Editor's notes:

This song was published as "Lines of Love" in *Merchant's Gargling Oil Songster* (Chicago, n.d. [ca.1885]) (Randolph 105), although that is not necessarily the first or only earlier printing.

Alternate titles/related songs: "Lines of Love," "The Bald-Headed End of a Broom."

### Sources:

Randolph, Vance, coll. and ed. *Ozark Folksongs*. Vol. III. Columbia, Mo.: State Historical Society of Missouri, 1946-50. "The Bald-Headed End of a Broom."

K.G.