

The Black Dress

An American Folksong [Am]

Set by *John Jacob Niles* (1892–1980) [Am]

Oh, she'll take off the black dress
[o:ʊ ʃɪl teɪk əf ðə blæk dres]

and put on the green,
[ænd put ɒn ðə grin]

For she is forsaken and only nineteen.

Fa la la...

For she is forsaken and only nineteen.

Oh, he courted her and he kissed her and he made her heart warm.

And then when he left her he laughed her to scorn.

Fa la la...

And then when he left her he laughed her to scorn.

Forsaken, forsaken her heart is forlorn,

But he is mistaken if he thinks she will mourn.

Fa la la...

But he is mistaken if he thinks she will mourn.

For we'll build her a cabin on yon mountain high

Where the wild birds can't find her nor hear her heart cry.

Fa la la...

Where the wild birds can't find her nor hear her heart cry.

Take warning, take warning, young ladies pray do,

For you are quite lucky that this is not you.

Fa la la...

For you are quite lucky that this is not you.

The entire text to this title with the complete
IPA transcription is available for download.

Thank you!

