

BITTERLY BLOOMED THE DAY (Words and Tune Phyl Lobl)
STYLE: Murder Ballad

1. TUNE A

The parlour-maid at a Cowra Hotel
Was a comely lass who served drinks well,
She has a murderous tale to tell.

CHORUS A : **Bitterly bloomed the day.**

TUNE B

Ethel had a landlord Maurice John Lee,
And they did what comes naturally,
She thought she was his bride to be,

CHORUS B **Sweet or bitter blow the winds of chance.**

And all the fallen leaves will spin and twist and dance.

2.

Ethel was pregnant with twins it seems,
But Maurice John Lee would smash her dreams
He had entirely different schemes

Bitterly bloomed the day.

She asked for a wedding to remove her shame
Maurice refused her the right to his name,
Though his mother said Ethel had fair claim.

Sweet or bitter blow the winds of chance.

All the fallen leaves will spin and twist and dance

3.

A. Ethel set a date for November nineteen,
With Palmer for witness and her sister Kathleen
A parson called Smith to complete the scene. **CHORUS A**

B. Reverend Smith felt things weren't right
He wished he had stayed home that night,
'Sign the papers' and fix this plight. **CHORUS B**

4.

A'Marry me Maurice it's the promise you gave',
'Over my dead body I'd prefer the grave',
His words became a cruel shockwave. **CHORUS A**

BShe drew a gun from her milk-white breast
One shot to his belly, one shot to his chest,
Her hand was grabbed, next shot did the rest, **CHORUS B**

5.

AEthel went to gaol for willful murder,
She begged she pleaded but no-one heard her,
Except Rose Scott who became a crusader **CHORUS A**

BRose rose up with the suffragists,
They raised their voices they raised their fists,
The sentence changed by legal twists. **CHORUS B**

Bitterly Bloomed the Day

Phyl Lobl

♩ = 135

Solo

C G⁷ C F

The par - lour maid at a Cow - ra ho - tel was a come - ly lass who

G C F C F C G⁷ C

served drinks well She had a mur - der - ous tale to tell How bit - ter - ly bloomed the day

C F C/E G F G F C Dm

Eth-el had a land-lord Maur-ice John Lee and they did what comes nat-ural-ly She thought she was his bride to be Oh sweet or bit-ter _

1 Oo _____ oo _____ sweet or bit-ter _

2 Oo _____ oo _____ sweet winds

3 Oo _____ oo _____ sweet winds

G Am F Dm

blow the winds of chance and all the fal-len leaves will spin and twist and dance.

1 G Am F Dm G G⁷ C G G⁷ C

blow the winds of chance and all the fal-len leaves will spin and twist and dance.

2 G Am F Dm G G⁷ C G G⁷ C

blow of chance and all the fal-len fall-en leaves will spin and twist and dance.

3 G Am F Dm G G⁷ C G G⁷ C

blow of chance and fall - en fall-en leaves will spin and twist and dance. spin and twist and dance _____

1. G G⁷ C

2. Last time G² G⁷ C