

The Drowning of Willie Leonard

Sung by LaRena Clark
Chord suggestions by Ian Bell

Am D G Am Am
Wil-lie walked out one morn-ing by the shores of the main and who should he —
D G Am D C Em
6 meet but the kee - per of game he bade him sin - cere - ly to not ven - ture
G Am D G Am
12 in For I see your — cof - fin in the Lake Och a - lin

Young Willie stripped off and he swam the lake round;
He swam to an island but not to dry ground.
He swam to an island; no more could he swim
In the dark and lonely waters of the Lake Ochalin,

Saying, "Comrades, loving comrades, is there no small boat nigh?
Is there no small boat nigh for to save a poor boy?"
Saying, "Comrades, loving comrades, I'm growing dreadful weak,"
And those were the last words poor Willie did speak.

It was early next morning his sweetheart arose;
Straightway to her mother's bedside she immediately goes,
Saying, "Mother, dear Mother, I've had an awful dream.
I dreamed that Willie Leonard was floating the main."

It was early the next morning his father came there;
He was winging his hands and a-tearing his hair,
Saying, "I've raised a large family of stout-bodied men,
But the flower of them all, he lies floating the main."

It was early the next morning his sweetheart came there,
A-looking to the east where the sun rose so fair,
Saying, "It's six weeks or better till our wedding day,
And poor Willie Leonard lies colder than clay."

The day of his funeral it was a sad sight.
There were four-and-twenty young men all dressed up in white;
They carried him to the graveyard and laid his body down,
Saying, "Adieu to Willie Leonard." Then they all marched away.