

OLD WOMEN'S SAYINGS!



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*Tune, Shop Windows.*  
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DRAW near and give attention,
 And you shall hear in rhyme,
 The old women's sayings,
 In the olden time.
 High and low, rich and poor,
 By daylight or dark,
 Are sure for to make
 Some curious remark.

CHORUS.

These are odds and ends,
 And superstitious ways,
 The signs and tokens
 Of my grandmother's days.

The first thing you will see,
 At the house of rich or poor,
 To keep the witches out,
 A horse shoe's o'er the door.
 Bellows on the table,
 Cause a row by day or night,
 If there's two knives across
 You are sure to have a fight.
 There's a stranger in the grate
 Or if the cat should sneeze,
 Or lay before the fire,
 It will rain or freeze.

A cinder with a hole
 In the middle is a purse,
 But a long one from the fire
 Is a coffin, which is worse.
 A spider tickling in the wall
 Is the death-watch at night,
 A spark in the candle
 Is a letter, sure as life;
 If your right eye itches,
 You'll cry till out of breath,
 A winding-sheet in the candle
 Is a sure sign of death.

If your left eye itches,
 You will laugh outright,
 But the left or the right
 Is very good at night.
 If your elbow itch,
 A strange bedfellow found,
 If the bottom of your foot itch
 You'll tread on fresh ground.
 If your knee itch you'll kneel
 In a church, that's a good 'un,
 And if your stomach itch,
 You'll get a lot of pudding.

If your back should itch,
 I do declare,
 Butter will be cheap,
 When the grass grows there.
 If the dog howl at night,
 Or mournfully cry,
 Or if the cock should crow,
 There will somebody die.
 If you stumble up stairs,
 Indeed I'm no railer,
 You'll be married to a snob,
 Or else to a tailor.

A speck on your finger nail,
 Is a gift that's funny,
 If your hand itch in the middle
 You will get some money.
 Spilling of the salt
 Is ager outright,
 You'll see a ghost if the doors
 Should rattle in the night;
 If your sweetheart
 Dream of bacon and eggs,

She'll have a little boy
 That has got three legs.

The cat washing her face
 The wind will blow,
 If the cat licks her foot,
 It is sure to snow.

Put your gown or your jacket
 On inside out,
 You will change your luck,
 And be put to the route;
 If your nose itches
 You'll get vexed till you jump
 If your great toe itch
 You'll get a kick on the rump.

If a girl snaps one finger
 She'll have a child it seems,
 And if she snaps two,
 She's sure to have twins.
 And if she snaps eight,
 Nine, ten, or eleven,
 It's a chance if she don't
 Have twenty and seven.
 If you lay with your head
 Underneath the clothes,
 You'll get an ugly man,
 What has got no nose.

If you see a star shoot,
 You'll get what you wish,
 If a hair gets in your mouth,
 You'll get as drunk as a fish.
 If your little toe itch,
 You'll be lost in a wave,
 If you shiver, there's somebody
 Going over your grave.
 If you go under a ladder,
 You'll have bad luck and fall,
 And some say bad luck
 Is better than none at all.
 So to please outright,
 I have told you in rhyme,
 The great superstition
 Of the olden time.

*J. Catnach, Printer, 2, 3,
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