

Don' Go Ova Dere

By Valerie Bloom

Barry madda tell 'im
But Barry wouldn' hear,
Barry fada warn 'im
But Barry didn' care.
'Don' go ova dere, bwoy,
Don' go ova dere.'

Barry sista beg 'im
Barry pull her hair,
Barry brother bet 'im
'You can't go ova dere.'
'I can go ova dere, bwoy,
I can go ova dere.'

Barry get a big bag,
Barry climb de gate,
Barry granny call 'im
But Barry couldn' wait,
'Im wan' get ova dere, bwoy,
Before it get too late.

Barry see de plum tree
'Im didn' see de bull,
Barry thinkin' bout de plums
'Gwine get dis big bag full.'
De bull get up an' shake, bwoy,
And gi' de rope a pull.

De rope slip off the pole
But Barry didn' see,
De bull begin to stretch 'im foot dem
Barry climb de tree.
Barry start fe eat, bwoy,
Firs' one, den two, den three.

Barry nearly full de bag
An' den 'im hear a soun',
Barry hole de plum limb tight
An' start fe look aroun',
When 'im see de bull, bwoy,
'Im nearly tumble down.

Night a come, de bull naw move
From unda dat plum tree,
Barry madda wondering
Whey Barry coulda be.
Barry getting tired, bwoy,
Of sitting in dat tree.

An' Barry dis realise
'Im neva know before,
Sey de tree did full o' black ants
But now 'im know fe sure,
For some begin fe bite 'im, bwoy,
Den more, an' more, an' more.

De bull lay down fe wait it out
An' Barry mek a jump,
De bag o' plum drop out de tree
An' Barry hear a thump,
By early de nex' mawnin' bwoy,
Dat bull gwine have a lump.

De plum so frighten dat po' bull
'Im start fe run too late,
'Im a gallop afta Barry
But Barry jump de gate,
De bull jus' stamp 'im foot, bwoy,
'Im yeye dem full o' hate.

When Barry ketch a 'im yard,
What a state 'im in!
'Im los' 'im bag, 'im clothes mud up
An mud deh pon 'im chin,
An whey de black ants bite 'im
Feba bull-frog skin.

Barry fada spank 'im,
'Im madda sey 'im sin,
Barry sista scold 'im
But Barry only grin,
For Barry brother shake 'im head
An' sey, 'Barry, yuh win!'