

## Juniper on the hill

Kak na gorye kalina,  
 kak na gorye kalina ...  
 Nu shtozh, komu dyelo, kalina?  
 Nu komu kakoye dyelo, kalina?

Pod goroyu malina,  
 pod goroyu malina!  
 Nu shtozh, komu dyelo, malina?  
 Nu komu kakoye dyelo, malina?

Tam dyevitsy gulyali,  
 tam krasnye gulyali.  
 Nu shtozh, komu dyelo, gulyali?  
 Nu komu kakoye dyelo, gulyali?

Kalinushku lomali,  
 kalinushku lomali.  
 Nu shtozh, komu dyelo, lomali?  
 Nu komu kakoye dyelo, lomali?

Na dorozhku brosalı,  
 na dorozhku brosalı.  
 Nu shtozh, komu dyelo, brosalı?  
 Nu komu kakoye dyelo, brosalı?

Yekhal parin udaloi,  
 yekhal parin udaloi.  
 Nu shtozh, komu dyelo, udaloi?  
 Nu komu kakoye dyelo, udaloi?

Mignul dyevke maladoi,  
 mignul dyevke maladoi.  
 Nu shtozh, komu dyelo, maladoi?  
 Nu komu kakoye dyelo, maladoi?

As juniper grows on the hill,  
 as juniper grows on the hill ...  
 Whose business is it, that there's juniper?  
 Whose business is this, that there's juniper?

So the raspberry grows underneath,  
 so the raspberry grows underneath!  
 Whose business is it, that there grows the raspberry?  
 Whose business is this, that there grows the raspberry?

There went the young girls,  
 there went the beautiful girls.  
 Whose business is it, where they went?  
 Whose business is this, where they went?

They broke twigs from the juniper bush,  
 they broke twigs from the juniper bush.  
 Whose business is it, what they broke?  
 Whose business is this, what they broke?

They strewed them on the path,  
 they strewed them on the path.  
 Whose business is it, what they strewed?  
 Whose business is this, what they strewed?

A daring lad on horseback came along,  
 a daring lad on horseback came along.  
 Whose business is it? He was a daredevil!  
 Whose business is this? He was a daredevil!

He gave one of the young girls a wink,  
 he gave one of the young girls a wink.  
 Whose business is it? She was young!  
 Whose business is this? She was young!

---

Words and Music: Russian folksong

Pronunciation:

*a* as in "bar", *e* as in "bed", *i* as in "bid", *o* as in "bore", *u* as in "blue"

*y* = as in "yellow" / *y* = dull *i*, as in "bill"

*s* = always voiceless, as in "son" / *z* = voiced, as in "zone"

*sh* = voiceless, as in "mesh" / *zh* = voiced, like the *s* in "measure"

*kh* = mostly rough, like the *ch* in Scotch "*loch*", but smooth when "e" or "i" follows

a, e, i, o, u, γ = the underlined vowel signifies the stressed syllable of a word.

Transcription and analogous translation: Kai Kracht

Comment:

"Kalina" (juniper) and "malina" (raspberry) obviously were the traditional offerings to an old-slavic goddess of love, who is still alive in quite a lot of folksongs, as in "Kalinka", and in this song, too:

Here the young girls strew juniper branches on the path, and the understanding goddess of love sends a daring young man riding along and winking at the girls ... and the rest of the story is really none of anyone's business.

© Kai Kracht 2002