

The Drover's Dream

A very widely known and collected bush song. Given here as learnt at the Bush Music Club. Collector Ron Edwards recorded a longer version that included a wider range of animals, including foxes and rabbits.

One night while travel - ling sheep, my com - pan - ions lay a - sleep,

There was - n't a star to illum - in - ate the sky,

I was dream - ing, I sup - pose, for my eyes were near - ly closed

When a ver - - y strange pro - cess - ion passed me by.

First there came a kan - gar - oo with his swag of blank - ets blue

A ding - - o ran be - side him for a mate;

They were travel - ling might - y fast, and they shout - ed as they passed

"We'll ____ have to jog a - long, it's get - ting late."

The pelican and the crane, they came in from off the plain
To amuse the company with a Highland Fling
The dear old bandicoot played a tune upon his flute
And the native bears sat round them in a ring.
The drongo and the crow sang a song of long ago
While the frill-necked lizard listened with a smile;
And the emu standing near with his claw up to his ear
Told the Funniest yarn I've heard for quite a while.

Three frogs from out the swamp where the atmosphere is damp
Came bounding in and sat upon the stones;
They each unrolled their swags and produced from little bags
The violin, the banjo and the bones
The goanna and the snake and the adder wide awake
With the alligator danced "The Soldier's Joy."
Beneath the spreading silky oak the jackass cracked a joke
And the magpie sang, "The Wild Colonial Boy,"

Some brolgas darted out from the tea-tree all about
And performed a set of Lancers very well.
Then the parrot green and blue gave the orchestra its cue
To strike up "The Old Log Cabin in the Dell."
I was dreaming, I suppose, of these entertaining shows
But it never crossed my mind I was asleep;
Till the Boss beneath the cart woke me up with such a start
Yelling, "Dreamy, where the hell are all the sheep?"