

# Chylde Owlet

Scotland

earliest date: 1828 (Ballad Index "Child Owlet")

adaption, arrangement and typesetting by Klaus Stezenbach ©2006 [www.kstez.de](http://www.kstez.de)

1. La-dy Er-skine sits in her cham-ber, a - sew-in' a sil-ken seam, a

gold - en chain for Chylde Ow - let, as he gangs oot and in.

2. His face was fair, lang was his hair, she's ca'd him to come nigh.  
"Oh ye maun cuckold Lord Ronald for a' his lands and kye."
3. "Oh lady, hold your tongue for shame that such a thing e'er be done,  
how could I cuckold Lord Ronald and me his sister's son."
4. Then she's ta'en oot a wee penknife that lay beside her bed  
and pricked hersel below her breist which made her body bleed.
5. Lord Ronald's come into her bower whaur she did mak' her mane.  
"Oh, wha's is a' this blood", he says, "that sparks on your hearth stane?"
6. "Young Chylde Owlet, your sister's son is new gane frae my bower.  
Gin I had nae been a good woman I'd hae been Chylde Owlet's whore."
7. Then he has ta'en young Chylde Owlet, cast him in prison strang,  
and a his men a council held to work Chylde Owlet wrang.
8. Some said Chylde Owlet should be hung, some said that he should burn,  
some said they would hae Chylde Owlet between wild horses torn.
9. "There are horses in my stable stand can run richt speedily.  
It's ye maun tae my stable gang and wile oot four for me."
10. They've put a horse to ilka foot and ain tae ilka hand  
and sent them oot over Elkin Moor as fast as they could gang.
11. There was nae grass nor heather knowe nor broom nor bonnie whin,  
but drappit wi' Chylde Owlet's blood and pieces o' his skin.
12. There was nae stane on Elkin Moor nor yet a piece o' rush,  
but drappit wi' Chylde Owlet's blood and pieces o' his flesh.