

Little Birdie

1 5
 Little birdie, little birdie
 5 1
 Come sing to me your song
 1 5
 I've a long time to stay here
 5 1
 And a long time to be gone.

1 5
 I'd rather be in some dark holler
 5 1
 Where the sun don't never shine
 1 5
 Than for you to be another man's darlin'
 5 1
 And to know you'll never be mine

1 5
 Little birdie, little birdie
 5 1
 What makes you fly so high
 1 5
 When you know that my true lover
 5 1
 Is waiting in the sky

1 5
 I'd rather drink muddy water
 5 1
 Rather sleep in a holler log
 1 5
 Than to stay here on this old river
 5 1
 Be treated like a dirty dog
 Chorus



"Little Birdie" captures a conversation with a bird about the sorrows of leaving a lover in which the speaker wonders whether it is worth staying in or leaving a place. The song has been popularized by recordings of musicians Ralph Stanley and Roscoe Holcomb. The banjo playing and singing styles of both Stanley (from Virginia) and Holcomb (from Kentucky) have been hugely influential on many musicians.