

Robert Burns (1759-96)

10 *A Waukrife Minnie*

“Where are you gaun, my bonie lass,  
Whare are you gaun, my hinnie,  
She answer’d me right saucilie,  
An errand for my minnie.

O whare live ye, my bonie lass, 5  
O whare live ye, my hinnie,  
By yon burn-side, gin ye maun ken,  
In a wee house wi’ my minnie.

But I foor up the glen at e’en,  
To see my bonie lassie; 10  
And lang before the gray morn cam,  
She was na hauf sa sacie.

O weary fa’ the waukrife cock,  
And the founart lay his crawin!  
He wauken’d the auld wife frae her sleep, 15  
A wee blink or the dawin.

An angry wife I wat she raise,  
And o’er the bed she brought her;  
And wi’ a mickle hazle rung  
She made her a weel pay’d dochter. 20

O fare the weel, my bonie lass!  
O fare thee weel, my hinnie!  
Thou art a gay and a bonie lass,  
But thou hast a waukrife minnie.”

1790

(From *The Works of Robert Burns. With His Life* by Allan  
Cunningham. Vol. 1. London, 1834)