

Hey Johnnie Cope

Version by Prestonpans Primary School, East Lothian

*Hey, Johnnie Cope, are ye waukin yet?
Or are yer drums a-beatin yet?
Gin ye were waukin I wad wait
Tae gang tae the coals in the mornin.*

When Chairlie looked the letter upon
He drew his sword his scabbart from:
Sayin, "Follae me, my merry men,
And we'll meet Johnnie Cope in the mornin."

"Fye noo Johnnie, be as guid as yer word;
And meet me there wi fire and sword;
And dinna flee like a frichtened bird,
That's raised frae its nest in the mornin."

*Hey, Johnnie Cope, are ye waukin yet?
Or are yer drums a-beatin yet?
Gin ye were waukin I wad wait
Tae gang tae the coals in the mornin.*

When Johnnie Cope he heard o this,
He thocht it wadna be amiss
Tae hae a horse in readiness,
Tae flee fae the Pans in the mornin.

Fye now, Johnnie, get up and rin;
For the Hieland bagpipes mak thair din;
It's best to sleep in yer ain hale skin,
It will be a bluidy mornin.

*Hey, Johnnie Cope, are ye waukin yet?
Or are yer drums a-beatin yet?
Gin ye were waukin I wad wait
Tae gang tae the coals in the mornin.*

Hey Johnnie Cope

by Adam Skirving

(Original version - Full lyrics)

Cope sent a challenge frae Dunbar sayin:
"Charlie, meet me an ye daur,
And I'll learn ye the airt o war
If ye'll come tae the coals in the mornin."

[Chorus:]

Hey, Johnnie Cope, are ye waukin yet?
Or are yer drums a-beatin yet?
Gin ye were waukin I wad wait
Tae gang tae the coals in the mornin.

[Chorus]

When Johnnie Cope he heard o this,
He thocht it wadna be amiss
Tae hae a horse in readiness,
Tae flee fae the Pans in the mornin.

Fye now, Johnnie, get up and rin;
For the Hieland bagpipes mak thair din;
It's best to sleep in yer ain hale skin,
It will be a bluidy mornin.

[Chorus]

When Johnnie Cope tae Dunbar cam,
Fowk speired at him, "Whaur's aw yer men?"
"The Deil confoond me I dinnae ken,
I left thaim aw i' the mornin."

"Faith," quo Johnnie, "I got sic a fleg
Wi the big claymore and the philabeg;
If I face thaim again, deil brak ma legs!
Sae I wish ye aw guid mornin."

[Chorus]

"Truth noo, Johnnie, ye arena blate
Tae come wi news o yer ain defeat,
And leave yer men in sic a state
Sae early in the mornin."