

Over the River and Through the Wood



*A New-England Boy's Song
About Thanksgiving Day
Lydia Maria Child
1844*



Thomas Birch 1832

Over the river, and through the wood,
to Grandfather's house we go;
the horse knows the way
to carry the sleigh
through the white and drifted snow.



William Tylee Ranney 1847

Over the river, and through the wood,
to Grandfather's house away!
We would not stop
for doll or top,
for 'tis Thanksgiving Day.



Charles Henri Joseph Leickert 1870

Over the river, and through the wood—
oh, how the wind does blow!
It stings the toes
and bites the nose,
as over the ground we go.



Cornelius Krieghoff (date unknown)

Over the river, and through the wood,
with a clear blue winter sky.
The dogs do bark
and the children hark,
as we go jingling by.



Ivan Pelevin 1870

Over the river, and through the wood,
to have a first-rate play.
Hear the bells ring,
“Ting a ling ding!”
Hurray for Thanksgiving Day!



Jan Konarski (date unknown)

Over the river, and through the wood—
no matter for winds that blow;
or if we get
the sleigh upset
into a bank of snow.



Thomas Kirby Van Zandt 1860

Over the river, and through the wood,
to see little John and Ann;
we will kiss them all,
and play snowball
and stay as long as we can.



Alfred von Wierusz-Kowalski 1903

Over the river, and through the wood,
trot fast my dapple gray!
Spring over the ground
like a hunting-hound!
For 'tis Thanksgiving Day.



George Henry Durrie 1860

Over the river, and through the wood
and straight through the barnyard gate.
We seem to go
extremely slow—
it is so hard to wait!



William Tylee Ranney 1847

Over the river, and through the wood—
old Jowler hears our bells;
he shakes his paw
with a loud bow-wow,
and thus the news he tells.



Thomas Birch 1838

Over the river, and through the wood—
when Grandmother sees us come,
she will say, “O, dear,
the children are here,
bring pie for everyone.”



Carl Larsson (date unknown)

Over the river, and through the wood—
now Grandmother's cap I spy!
Hurrah for the fun!
Is the pudding done?
Hurrah for the pumpkin pie!