The Wonderful Sucking Pig
Collected by Gardiner from Alfred Stride, Dibden, Hants. June 1907

Words slightly revised and chorus added SM Feb 2005
(original words in Marrowbones)

You all have heard of the Christmas Goose and the walloping Great Pie
But I think to myself it’s not much use to tell such a precious lie
But I’ll tell you of a wonder new, as true as I’m a sinner
About a wonderful sucking pig we had for Christmas dinner.

Chorus
So come on all both great and small and listen to my lay
As I tell you of the sucking pig we ate on Christmas Day!

The very first day this pig was born he cut some cunning capers –
He swallowed a field of turnip tops and forty ton of taters.
So then they pulled out all his teeth but it only made him snarly,
And he bolted a wagon load of swedes and a stack of oats and barley.

This sucking pig he grew so fat, you might think it a lark,
But when he was only three weeks old he was big as Noah’s Ark.
His leg was like a greasy pole with a ton of bristles on it
And his curly tail when pulled out straight was longer than a comet.

To kill this wonderful sucking pig it took no end of trying,
And strike me down if I tell a lie, he was seventy years a-dying.
The men who had his leg for lunch, up to Hyde Park they took it
And they had to boil the Serpentine before that they could cook it.

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Chorus twice