

# Chad Mitchell Trio, Queen Elinor's Confession

Queen Elinor was a sick woman  
And afraid that she would die  
When she sent for two friars out of France  
To come to her speedily

When the King he heard the Queen had sent  
For friars from o'er the sea  
He called his noble Earl Marshal  
To come to him speedily

Do you put on one friar's coat  
And I'll put on another  
And we shall to Queen Elinor go  
One fryar like another

Oh God forbid, said Earl Marshal  
That such a thing would be  
If I should beguile madame the Queen  
Then hanged I would be

And the King he swore upon his oath  
His scepter and his crown  
That whatsoever Queen Elinor said  
He would not write it down

And thus attired they both did go  
Till they came to Whitehall  
The bells did ring, and the choristers sing  
And the torches did light them all

Be you two friars of France, she said  
As I suppose you be  
But if you be two English friars  
Then hanged thou wouldst be

We are two friars of France, they said  
As you suppose we be  
And we have not been at any mass  
Since we came over the sea

The first vile sin that ere I did  
To you I will unfold  
Earl Marshal had my maidenhead  
Underneath this cloath of gold

That is a vile sin, said the King  
God may forgive it thee  
Amen, amen, quoth Earl Marshal  
With a heavy heavy heart spoke he

The next vile sin that ere I did  
To you I'll not deny  
I brewed a pot of poison strong  
To poison King Henry

That is a vile sin, said the King  
God may forgive it thee  
Amen, amen, quoth Earl Marshal  
I wish it so may be

Do you see yonder little child  
A-tossing of that ball?  
That is Earl Marshal son, she said  
And I love him the best of all

And do you see yonder little boy  
A-catching of that ball?  
That is King Henry's son, she said  
And I love him the worst of all

His head is like unto a bull  
His nose is like a boar  
No matter for that, King Henry said  
I love him the better therefore

Then the King threw off his friar's coat  
He appeared all in red  
She shrieked, she cried, she wrong her hands  
She said she was betrayed

And the King looked over his left shoulder  
And a grim look looked at he  
And he said, Earl Marshal, but for my oath  
Then hanged you would be