Blue Tail Fly

Burl Ives

When I was young, I used to wait On the boss and give him his plate And pass him the bottle when he got dry And brush away the blue tail flyJimmy, crack corn and I don't care Jimmy, crack corn and I don't care Jimmy, crack corn and I don't care My master's gone awayAnd When he would ride in the afternoon I'd follow after, with a hickory broom The pony being rather shy When bitten by blue tail flyJimmy, crack corn and I don't care Jimmy, crack corn and I don't care Jimmy, crack corn and I don't care My master's gone awayOne day, he ride around the farm The flies so numerous, they did swarm One chanced to bite him on the thigh The devil take the blue tail flyJimmy, crack corn and I don't care Jimmy, crack corn and I don't care Jimmy, crack corn and I don't care My master's gone awayThe pony run, he jumped, he pitch He threw my master in the ditch He died and the jury wondered why The verdict was the blue tail flyJimmy, crack corn and I don't care Jimmy, crack corn and I don't care Jimmy, crack corn and I don't care My master's gone awayThey lay him under a 'simmon tree His epitaph is there to see "Beneath this stone, I'm forced to lie Victim of the blue tail fly"Jimmy, crack corn and I don't care Jimmy, crack corn and I don't care Jimmy, crack corn and I don't care

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My master's gone away