

# Briar

*This can be played over an A drone (but also works over an A and D drone or a D chord) Other suggestions are below (and fingering for the top four strings of a guitar in DADGAD tuning)*

1. The root of the briar can weather the frost And  
live through the drought, let the sun do its - worst  
Ro - tted and kno - tted, dug up and re - grown Dark at the heart  
wood - har - der than - bone.

Suggested accompaniment:

1st and 4th verse: (x)2x(x) 2nd verse: (x)2x1/x (x)2xx/1 3rd verse: x2x1/x x2xx/1

1. The root of the briar can weather the frost  
And live through the drought, let the sun do its worst,  
Rotted and knotted, dug up and regrown,  
Dark at the heartwood, harder than bone.

2. The stem of the briar can flex in the gale,  
Grim and impervious, harsh as a flail.  
You will not break through it; by tangle and thorn,  
The briar will leave you bleeding and torn.

3. The flower of the briar is blown in a day;  
Bitter winds carry the petals away.  
The hip of the briar is tender indeed  
Until you bite into the fibres and seeds.

4. I'm harsh as the briar, for seasons have turned:  
I have been harvested, frozen and burned -  
These, my defences, lest love take its grip,  
And leave me as tender, as green as the tip.