


Coventry Carol
with verses from:
Behold a Silly Tender Babe

Lul - - ly, lul - la, thou lit - - tle tin - y child, By, by, lul -


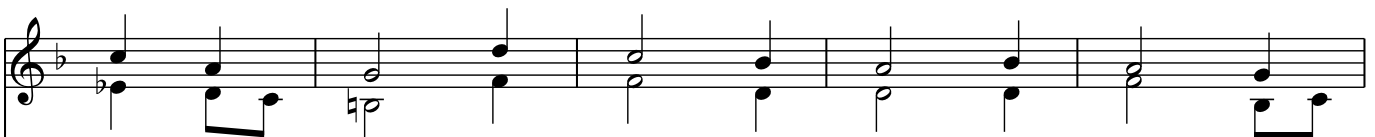
- ly, lul - - la, thou lit - tle tin - y child, By, by, lul - ly, lu - lay.

The word silly has over many centuries taken a fascinating journey through a range of evolving meanings. Silly did not originally refer to the absurd or ridiculous in fact quite the opposite. The word derives from the old English word seely, meaning happy, blissful, lucky or blessed. From there it came to mean innocent, or deserving of compassion, only later mutating this sense of naive childishness into a more critical, mocking term, signifying ignorance, feeble-mindedness, and foolish behaviour - the meaning we know today.




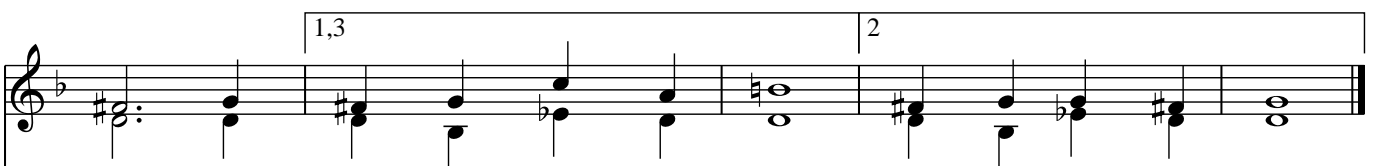
1. Be - - hold a sil - - ly ten - - der ___ babe, In freez - ing
 2. The inns are full; no one will ___ yield This lit - tle
 3. De - - spise him not for ly - - ing ___ there; First what he

4. Weigh not his crib, his wood - en ___ dish, Nor beasts that
 5. This sta - ble is a prince - 's ___ court, The crib his
 6. With joy ap - proach this low - - ly ___ child, Do hom - age

win - ter ___ night, In home - - ly man - - ger trem - bling ___
 pil - grim ___ bed; But forced he is with sil - - ly ___
 is in - - quire; An o - - rient pearl is of - - ten ___

round him ___ press; Weigh not his mo - - ther's poor at - -
 chair of ___ state, The beasts are par - - cel of his ___
 to a ___ king; And high - - ly praise his hum - - ble ___

lies: A - - las! A pit - eous sight. crib to shroud his head.
 beasts in depth of dir - - ty mire.
 found In depth of dir - - ty mire.

- tire, Nor Jo - seph's sim - ple dress. wood - en dish his plate.
 pomp, The pomp, Which he from heaven doth bring.

