

Little Willie's Wild Woodbines

Li-ttle Bi-lly Will-iams found a pe-nny in a gar-den one fine sum-mer's day.

And as li-ttle Bi-lly ne-ver had more than a far-thing, he shout-ed "Hip-hoo -

ray!' Pass-ing a to-bacc-on-ist's where ci-gar-ettes were sold, there he spied some li-ttle pa-ckets,

co-loured green and gold. Said Bi-lly, al-though I'm on-ly six, I'll be a sport.' He

to-ddled in that ba-cca shop and this is what he bought: Five li-ttle fags in a dai-nty li-ttle pa-cket

Five ci-gar-ettes that cost one D. Five li-ttle pains un-der-neath his ja-cket,

Five wo-bbles in his li-ttle Ma-ry, Five li-ttle whiffs and in five li-ttle jiffs he was

ro-ling on the tram-way line, wish-ing he could touch the ca-ble, look-ing

gree-ner than the la-bel on li-ttle Bi-lly's wild Wood-bine.

When Billy touched the fust 'en, he said, 'This 'en yain't a good'un!
The next might be all right.'
When he lit the second he said, 'I wish I'd bought plum-pudden,
Or else a paper kite.'
I never thought the world went round,' he murmured at the third,
'But now I've seen it dancing I can take my teacher's word.'
And at the fourth he felt so bad, he hic-cup'd with a frown,
'Grub yain't so nice a-coming up as when it's going down.'

Little Billy Williams he lay flatter than a flounder,
Full of misery.
Suddenly along the road came P.C. Binks, the bounder,
'What's up yere?' said he.
Then lighting up his bulls-eye, he disclosed the shocking fact,
Little Willie had been smoking right against the latest act.
He picked up all those evidence, those half-smoked woodbines four,
As bold as little Willie said, 'Please sir, I've got one more.'

Last Chorus:

Five little fags in a dainty little packet,
Five cigarettes that cost one D.
Five little pains underneath his jacket,
Five wobbles in his little Mary,
Five little whiffs, five little jiffs
He was lying on the tramway line.
The copper, he was crying
Little Willie felt like dying,
But the copper smoked his last Woodbine.

Source: Sung by Reg Hannis, Cranham. Collected by Gwilym Davies 20 January 1975.

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