

The Cuckoo

Arr Matt Norman

S
A
T
B

The cuck-oo is a mer-ry bird he sings as he flies He

The cuck-oo is a mer-ry bird he sings as he flies He

The cuck-oo is a mer-ry bird he sings as he flies He

The cuck-oo is a mer-ry bird he sings as he flies He

6 Repeat only in last verse

6 brings us nice tales and he tells us no lies He sucks all the

brings us nice tales and he tells us no lies

brings us nice tales and he tells us no lies the

brings us nice tales and he tells us no lies

12 small birds to keep his voice clear, and the more he says Cuck-oo the

to keep his voice clear, and the more he says Cuck-oo the

small birds to keep his voice clear, and the more he says Cuck-oo the

and the more he says Cuck-oo the

The musical score consists of five staves. The first staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It starts at measure 17, marked with an asterisk (*). The notes are: quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, and quarter note C5. Below the staff, the lyrics are: "aut - - umn comes near." The second staff is identical to the first. The third staff is identical to the first. The fourth staff is a bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It starts at measure 8. The notes are: quarter note G2, quarter note A2, quarter note B2, and quarter note C3. Below the staff, the lyrics are: "aut - - umn comes near." The fifth staff is identical to the fourth.

The cuckoo is a merry bird he sings as he flies
 He brings us nice tales and he tells us no lies
 He sucks all the small birds to keep his voice clear,
 and the more he says Cuckoo the autumn comes near.

A walking and a talking and a walking goes I
 To meet my sweet William who'll come by and bye.
 To meet him's a pleasure to part is grief,
 For a false-hearted young man he's worse than a thief.

A thief he will rob you and take all you have,
 When a false-hearted young man will bring you to the grave.
 The grave it will rot you and turn you to dust,
 There is not one in twenty a maiden can trust.

If he's gone let him go, for to sink or to swim,
 He's sadly mistaken to think I mourn him.
 I'll do unto him as he's done unto me.
 For I'll get another and that you'll all see.

NB Second half of last verse to be sung to the same music as the first half

Source: Danny Brazil at Staverton. Collected by Gwilym Davies 5th May 1978
 Notes: Mr Brazil only knew the first verse of this song, so the rest has been provided from another Gloucestershire version.

*B in bar 17 was C in the original

The words have been edited for ease of singing but a few notes need to be added or subtracted in each verse to make them fit.