

The Cuckoo

Lively

The Cu - - ckoo is a mer - ry 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 Cu - ckoo the au - tumn comes near

2. A walking and a talking and a walking goes
For to meet my sweet William he will come by and bye.
For to meet him it's pleasure and to part it is grief,
For a false-hearted young man he's worse than a thief.
3. For 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 that a maiden can trust.
4. So if he's gone let him go, let him sink, or let him swim,
For he's sadly mistaken if he thinks that I mourn.
I'll do unto him as he's done unto me.
I'll get another lover and that you'll all see.

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.