

# Coventry Carol (Lullay Lullay)

Words & music: Traditional

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**Em B7 Em G D C B7**

Lullay, lul - lay, thou little tiny Child

**Em D G Am B7 Em (hold)**

Bye, bye, lul - lay, lul - lay

**Em D Em B7 Em D C B7**

Lul - lay, lul - lay, thou little tiny Child

**Em D G Am B7 Em (hold)**

Bye, bye, lul - lay, lul - lay

**Em B7 Em G D C B7**

Oh, sisters, too, how may we do

**Em D G Am B7 Em (hold)**

For to preserve this day

**Em D Em B7 Em D C B7**

This poor youngling for whom we do sing?

**Em D G Am B7 Em (hold)**

Bye, bye, lul - lay, lul - lay

**Em B7 Em G D C B7**

Herod the king in his rag - ing

**Em D G Am B7 Em (hold)**

Charg-ed he hath this day

**Em D Em B7 Em D C B7**

His men of might, in his own sight

**Em D G Am B7 Em (hold)**

All children young to slay

**Em B7 Em G D C B7**

That woe is me, poor Child for Thee!

**Em D G Am B7 Em (hold)**

For - ev - er mourn and lay

**Em D Em B7 Em D C B7**

For Thy part - ing nor say nor sing

**Em D G Am B7 Em (hold)**

Bye, bye, lul - lay, lul - lay

**Em B7 Em G D C B7**

Lullay, lul - lay, thou little tiny Child

**Em D G Am B7 Em (hold)**

Bye, bye, lul - lay, lul - lay

**Em D Em B7 Em D C B7**

Lul - lay, lul - lay, thou little tiny Child

**Em D G Am B7 Em (hold)**

Bye, bye, lul - lay, lul - lay

# Coventry Carol (Lullay Lullay)

Traditional

Em B Em G D C B

1. Lul - lay, lul - lay, thou lit - tle ti - ny Child,  
 2. Oh, sis - ters, too, how may we do  
 3. Her - od the king in his rag - ing  
 4. That woe is me, poor Child for Thee!

Em D G Am B Em

Bye, bye, lul - lay, lul - lay. Lul -  
 For to pre - serve this day This  
 Charg - ed he hath this day His  
 For - ev - er mourn and lay For

D Em B Em D C B

lay, lul - lay, thou lit - tle ti - ny Child,  
 poor young - ling for whom we do sing?  
 men of might in his own sight  
 thy part - ing nor say nor sing

Em D G Am B Em

Bye, bye, lul - lay, lul - lay.  
 Bye, bye, lul - lay, lul - lay  
 All child - ren young to slay.  
 Bye, bye, lul - lay, lul - lay. (Repeat Verse 1)

arr. Peter McLaren

'Coventry Carol', written no later than 1591, comes from the 16th century mystery play 'The Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors'. The lyrics represent a mother's lament for her doomed child preceding the infamous 'massacre of the innocents'.

This 'folk' setting is based on the melody sung by Jane Herival (later Edwards)—a native of the channel island of Jersey—in the late 1970s. Noticably absent from this melody (and harmonic arrangement) is the 'Tierce de Picardy' (Picardy third) typically featured in more 'conventional' settings of the song.

# Coventry Carol (Lulay, Lulay)

Traditional

Em B Em G D C B

Em D G Am B Em

D Em B Em D C B

Em D G Am B Em

arr. Peter McLaren