



VARIATIONS
from the nursery rhyme

Old King Cole

Wherein is inculcated a Moral: ΜΗΔΕΝ ΑΓΑΝ*

Cecil Forsyth
(1870-1941)

Allegro con brio ♩ = 108

S
A
T
B

f Old King Cole was a
f Old King Cole was a
f Old King Cole was a
f Old King Cole was a

Allegro con brio ♩ = 108

Piano

RH
LH
RH
LH

*(nothing in excess)

Old King Cole

4

S
wretch - ed ole soul, And a wretch - ed old soul was he, He

A
wretch - ed ole soul, And a wretch - ed old soul was he, He

T
wretch - ed ole soul, And a wretch - ed old soul was he, He

B
wretch - ed ole soul, And a wretch - ed old soul was he, He

Pno.

7

S
loved his pipe, and he loved his bowl, But he hat - ed his fid - dlers three.

A
loved his pipe, and he loved his bowl, But he hat - ed his fid - dlers three.

T
loved his pipe, and he loved his bowl, But he hat - ed his fid - dlers three.

B
loved his pipe, and he loved his bowl, But he hat - ed his fid - dlers three.

Pno.

Old King Cole

11 *f*

S
Fid - dle did - dle dee, went the fid - dle,

A
Fid - dle did - dle dee, went the

T

B

Pno. *mp*

14

S

A
viol,

T

B
f
Fid - dle did - dle dee, went the big, bur - ly bum - bo,

Pno.

Old King Cole

17

S *f* Fid - dle dee.

A *f* Fid - dle dee.

T

B Fid - dle did - dle did - dle did - dle dee, *f* Fid - dle dee. *f* With a

Pno. *f*

20

S *f* Fid - dle did - dle dee, *pp* Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle

A *f* Fid - dle did - dle dee, *pp* Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle

T *f* When Old King Cole took his
When Old King Cole to the

B *pp* fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, fid - dle did - dle dee,

Pno. *mf legato*

Old King Cole

23

S
dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle

A
dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle

T
morn - ing roll And his cup of hot cof - fee, His
par - lour stole For a nap on the strict Q. T., He

B
Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee,

Pno.

26

S
dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee,

A
dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee,

T
meal was lost and his tem - per crossed By those ter - ri - ble fid - dlers three,
heard a boise of those cur - sed boys, Those hor - ri - ble fid - dlers three.

B
Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle did - dle did - dle dee,

Pno.

Old King Cole

30

S
Fid - dle did - dle dee, went the fid - dle,

A
Fid - dle did - dle dee, went the viol,

T

B

Pno.

34

S

A

T

B
Fid - dle did - dle dee, went the big, bur - ly bum - bo, Fid - dle did - dle did - dle did - dle

Pno.

Old King Cole

37

S *f* Fid - dle dee.

A *f* Fid - dle dee.

T

B dee, *f* Fid - dle dee. With a

Pno. *f*

39

S *f* Fid - dle did - dle dee, *pp* Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle

A *f* Fid - dle did - dle dee, *pp* Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle

T *f* Old King Cole, if he
Old King Cole got as

B *pp* fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, fid - dle did - dle dee,

Pno. *mf legato*

Old King Cole

42

S
deed, Fid - dle did - dle deed, Fid - dle did - dle deed, Fid - dle did - dle

A
deed, Fid - dle did - dle deed, Fid - dle did - dle deed, Fid - dle did - dle

T
went for a stroll In the gar - den af - ter tea, Was at
thin as a pole And the co - lour of *coupe de pen,* Till a

B
Fid - dle did - dle deed, Fid - dle did - dle deed, Fid - dle did - dle deed,

Pno.

45

S
deed, Fid - dle did - dle deed, Fid - dle did - dle deed, Fid - dle did - dle deed,

A
deed, Fid - dle did - dle deed, Fid - dle did - dle deed, Fid - dle did - dle deed,

T
once pur - sued by that breath - less brood, Those mad - den - ing fid - dlers three.
friend ob - served that they all de - served to per - ish, those fid - dlers three.

B
Fid - dle did - dle deed, Fid - dle did - dle deed, Fid - dle did - dle did - dle did - dle deed,

Pno.

Old King Cole

49

S
Fid - dle did - dle dee, went the fid - dle,

A
Fid - dle did - dle dee, went the

T

B

Pno.

52

S

A
viol,

T

B
Fid - dle did - dle dee, went the big, bur - ly bum - bo,

Pno.

Old King Cole

55

S
Fid - dle dee.

A
Fid - dle dee.

T

B
Fid - dle did - dle did - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle dee. With a

Pno.

58

S
Fid - dle did - dle dee, *pp* Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle

A
Fid - dle did - dle dee, *pp* Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle

T
f Said Old King Cole, "I will

B
pp fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, fid - dle did - dle dee,

Pno.

mf legato

Old King Cole

61

S
dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle

A
dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle

T
make a hole in those cads that wor - ry me." He dis -

B
Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee,

Pno.

64

S
dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee,

A
dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee,

T
charged his gun, and the good old gun Dis - charged the fid - dlers three.

B
Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle dee, Fid - dle did - dle did - dle did - dle dee,

Pno.

Old King Cole

68 *weak and faint*

S
Fid - dle did - dle dee, went the fid - dle,

A
weak and faint
Fid - dle did - dle dee, went the viol,

T

B

Pno.
pp

72 *pp molto rit. e dim.*

S
Fid-dle dee.

A
molto rit. e dim.
pp
Fid-dle

T
molto rit. e dim.

B
weak and faint
poco rit.
Fid-dle did-dle dee, went the big, bur-ly bum - bo, *molto rit. e dim.*
Fid - dle did - dle did - dle did - dle dee,

Pno.
poco rit.
molto rit. e dim.
pp

Old King Cole

76 *a tempo* *f*

S Old King Cole was a mer - ry old soul, And a

A dee. Old King Cole was a mer - ry old soul, And a

T Old King Cole was a mer - ry old soul, And a

B Fid - dle dee. Old King Cole was a mer - ry old soul, And a

Pno. *a tempo* *f*

79

S mer - ry old soul was he, He pulled at his pipe, And he

A mer - ry old soul was he, He pulled at his pipe, And he

T mer - ry old soul was he, He pulled at his pipe, And he

B mer - ry old soul was he, He pulled at his pipe, And he

Pno.

Old King Cole

82

S
quaffed at his bowl, And he bur - ied his fid - dlers three, his

A
quaffed at his bowl, And he bur - ied his fid - dlers three, his

T
quaffed at his bowl, And he bur - ied his fid - dlers three, his

B
quaffed at his bowl, And he bur - ied his fid - dlers three, He

Pno.

85

S
fid - - dlers three, his fid - - dlers

A
fid - - dlers three, He bur - ied his fid - dlers

T
fid - - dlers three, his fid - - dlers

B
bur - ied his fid - dlers three, his fid - - dlers

Pno.

Old King Cole

88

S three, He bur - ried his fid - dlers, bur - ied his fid - dlers,

A three, He bur - ied his fid - dlers, bur - ied his fid - dlers,

T three, He bur - ied his fid - dlers, bur - ied his fid - dlers,

B three, he bur - ied his fid - dlers, bur - ied his fid - dlers,

Pno. *marcato*

91

S *allarg.* fid - - - dlers *a tempo* three. _____

A *allarg.* He bur - ied his fid - dlers *a tempo* three. _____

T *allarg.* bur - ried his fid - dlers, fid - dlers *a tempo* three. _____

B *allarg.* fid - - - dlers *a tempo* three. _____

Pno. LH *allarg.* *ff a tempo*

Cecil Forsyth (1870-1941) was born in Greenwich, England. He was educated at the University of Edinburgh and at the Royal College of Music, where he studied with Charles Villiers Stanford and Hubert Parry. He played viola in London orchestras and was an active composer. He authored numerous books including "Music and Nationalism: A Study of English Opera," "Choral Orchestration," "A History of Music," and "A Digest of Music History." His compositions include works for orchestra, chamber music, two comic operas, songs, and part-songs. He died in New York, where he had moved numerous years earlier.

Old King Cole was a wretched ole soul,
And a wretched old soul was he,
He loved his pipe, and he loved his bowl,
But he hated his fiddlers three.

*Fiddle diddle dee went the fiddle,
Fiddle diddle dee, went the viol,
Fiddle diddle dee, went the big, burly bumbo,
Fiddle diddle diddle diddle dee.*

When Old King Cole took his morning roll
And his cup of hot coffee,
His meal was lost and his temper crossed
By those terrible fiddlers three.

When Old King Cole to the parlour stole
For a nap on the strict Q. T.,
He heard a noise of those cursed boys,
Those horrible fiddlers three.

Old King Cole, if he went for a stroll
In the garden after tea,
Was at once pursued by that breathless brood,
Those maddening fiddlers three.

Old King Cole got as thin as a pole
And the colour of *coupe de pen*,
Till a friend observed that they all deserved
To perish, those fiddlers three.

Said Old King Cole, "I will make a hole
In those cads that worry me."
He discharged his gun, and the good old gun
Discharged the fiddlers three.

Old King Cole was a merry old soul,
And a merry old soul was he,
He pulled at his pipe, and he quaffed at his bowl,
And he buried his fiddlers three.

TERMS OF USE

These editions are available as a service to the choral community, offering inexpensive access to public domain literature. Choir resources can purchase other literature still under copyright, especially to support those creating and publishing new compositions and arrangements. These editions have been created using public domain sources under U. S. copyright law. Out of respect to the research, time and effort invested:

please print and issue an edition in its entirety, retaining notices, attributions, and logos.
please do not consider this edition a source for creating another edition.

If recorded, notification and attribution would be appropriate professional courtesies.

For a full description of these requests and more scores, visit:
www.shorchor.net

