

The Moon Shines Bright

James Beale

Collected by Cecil Sharp, Warehorne, 23rd September 1908

Cecil Sharp MSS, Folk Words CJS2/9/1783, Folk Tunes CJS2/10/1924

Roud 702

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and common time. The melody is simple and folk-like, with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first line of music corresponds to the first line of lyrics, the second line to the second, and the third line to the third. The piece ends with a double bar line.

The moon shines bright the stars give light A
lit- tle be- fore it was day The Lord our God he
calls on us And bids us to wake and pray

1. The moon shines bright, the stars give light
A little before it was day
The Lord our God he calls on us
And bids us to wake and to pray
2. Awake, awake good people all
Awake and you shall hear
The Lord our God died on the cross
For us he loved so dear
3. In yonders garden green doth grow
As green as any leek
Our Lord our God he waters us
With his heavenly dew so sweet.
4. So teach your children well, dear man,
It's whilst that you are here
It will be the better for your soul, dear man,

When you are gone from here.

5. To-day you might be alive, dear man
And worth ten thousand pound
Tomorrow you might be dead, dear man,
And your corpse lie underground

6. The turf all at your head, dear man,
And another at your feet
When your good deeds and your bad deeds
Before the Lord will meet