

MUSIC'S THE VERY BEST THING

WHEN [C] I WAS A [G] YOUNG MAN
[C] JUST BARELY [F] FIFTEEN
THE [C] FIDDLE I [G] LEARNED HOW TO [Am] PLAY
I'D [C] BRING IT TO [G] SESSIONS
[C] IN HOUSES AND [F] PUBS
AND [C] SOON THE [G] OLD MEN LET ME [Am] STAY
EVEN [Dm] SHARED
A FEW [G] TUNES ON THE [C] WAY

NOW MY FIDDLE HAD COME FROM AN UNCLE WHO'D DIED
IT WAS YEARS SINCE THE STRINGS WERE ALL NEW
AND THE BOW HAD THE SHAPE OF A TINKER'S OLD HORSE
WITH MOST OF THE HAIR MISSING TOO
BUT IT PLAYED
AND THE TUNING WAS TRUE

*BUT I'LL [F] NEVER FOR- [C] GET
IN MY [G] LONGEST OF [Am] YEARS
THE [C] FEELING THAT [C11] MUSIC WOULD [F-G] BRING:
GOD MADE [C] WOMEN AND [Bb] WHISKEY
AND [F] LITTLE WHITE [C] LAMBS
BUT [F] MUSIC'S THE [C] VERY BEST [G] THING
OF THEM [Am] ALL
YES, [F] MUSIC'S THE [G] VERY BEST [C] THING!*

IN MY TRAVELLING TIME I LEARNED HUNDREDS OF TUNES
MAYBE ONE OUT OF TEN WITH A NAME
MY FINGERS WERE STRONG AND THE STRINGS MOSTLY NEW
BUT THE OLD TINKER'S BOW WAS THE SAME
ALWAYS READY
TO TAKE ALL THE BLAME!

WHEN THE OLD MEN PASSED ON
THERE'D BE TEARS AT THE WAKE
MOURNING TOO FOR THE TUNES THAT HAD DIED
WE HAD LEARNED WHAT THEY LET US
AND ASKED THEM FOR MORE
BUT THE BEST ONES THEY KEPT DEEP INSIDE
NEAR THE HEART
NEVER SHARING THEIR PRIDE

**BUT FOR EACH WHO DEPARTS
THERE'S ANOTHER ARRIVED
TO RECEIVE ALL THE GIFTS HANDED DOWN
BY YOUNG MEN AND OLD
AND THE GOOD LADIES TOO
IN VILLAGE AND COUNTY AND TOWN
MAY THEY LIVE
IN FAME AND RENOWN!**

**MAY GOD KEEP US SAFE
AND OUR MUSIC TONIGHT
BE A PRAYER THAT HE'LL GRANT TO US ALL
THAT SOME BRIGHT HAPPY DAY
WE'RE TOGETHER AGAIN
AT A SESSION IN HEAVEN'S BEST HALL
LOTS OF ROOM FOR THE GREAT AND THE SMALL!**