

Kitty Alone

Informant/Performer:
Jean Ritchie
Viper, KY

Source:
Jean Ritchie
*Children's Songs and Games from
the Southern Mountains*
Folkways FC 7054, 1957

Saw a crow a - fly - in' low, Kit - ty a - lone, Kit - ty a - lone,
Saw a crow a - fly - in' low, Kit - ty a - lone a - lye. _____
Saw a crow a - fly - in' low, and a cat a - spin - ning tow,
Kit - ty a - lone a - lye, _____ rock - a - ma - rye - ree. _____

2. In came a little bat, etc.
With some butter and some fat.
3. Next come in was a honey bee,
With his fiddle across his knee.
4. Next came in was two little ants,
Fixing around to have a dance
5. Next come in was little Pete,
Fixing around to go to sleep.
6. (More slowly) Bee-o, bye-o, baby-o,
Bye-o, bee-o, baby-o.

Transcribed by Gail Needleman

Background Information

The "Kitty Alone" refrain is often found attached to some version of "The Frog's Courtship." It is in itself, however, an independent song, and as such traces back nearly 400 years. Jean Ritchie's Kentucky version, learned from her sister Kitty, is a version of the independent song, and is here sung as a lullaby.