

Coventry Carol

Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors. (15th Century)
The words are by Robert Croo, and
printed by E. Rhys in "Everyman and other Plays".

15th Century arranged by Walford Davies
From A Students' Hymnal, 1923

Lul - ly, lul - la, thou lit - tle ti - ny child, By by, lul - ly lul - lay, lu -

lay thou lit - tle ti - ny child, By by, lul - ly lul - lay. *Fine.*

O sis - ters too, How may we do For to pre - serve this day This
He - rod the king, in his ra - ging, Charg-ed he hath this day His
That woe is me, Poor child for thee! And ev - er morn and day, For

poor young - ling, For whom we do sing, By by, lul - ly lul - lay?
men of might, In his own sight, All young child - ren to slay.
thy part - ing Nei - ther say nor sing By by, lul - ly lul - lay!

*The melody comes from one of the earliest polyphonic carols it describes in old English what Mary sang to her child.
"Lully lullay" are now not common English words but in the 1400's and 1500's, they were common slang words meaning "I saw, I saw!".*