

A Short Carol  
*"There was a Boy"*



Words by John Short  
1911 -1991  
Peter Dyson  
1977

## A Short Carol

There was a boy bedded in bracken,  
Like to a sleeping snake all curled he lay;  
On his thin navel turned this spinning sphere,  
Each feeble finger fetched seven suns away.

He was not dropped in good for lambing weather,  
He took no suck when shoo birds sing together;  
But he is come in cold-as-workhouse weather,  
Poor as a Salford child.

John Short

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Peter Dyson St Petersburg 24th May 2016.

# A Short Carol

## There was a Boy

1977

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$\text{♩} = 50$  *p* *mf*

Soprano  
There was a boy bed-ded in brac-ken

Alto  
There was a boy There was a

Tenor  
There was a boy bed-ded in brac-ken

Bass  
There was a boy There was a

7 *p*

S.  
like to a sleep-ing snake all curled he lay

A.  
boy all curled he lay

T.  
like to a sleep-ing snake all curled he lay

B.  
boy all curled he lay



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13 *pp*

S. On his thin na - vel turned this spin - ning sphere.\_\_\_\_\_

A. *pp* On his thin na - vel turned this spin - ning sphere.\_\_\_\_\_

T. *pp* On his thin na - vel turned this spin - ning sphere.\_\_\_\_\_

B. *pp* On his thin na - vel turned this spin - ning sphere.\_\_\_\_\_



18 *p*

S. Each fee - ble fin - ger fetched seven suns a - way.\_\_\_\_\_

A. *p* Each fin - ger fetched seven suns a - way.\_\_\_\_\_

T. *p* Each fee - ble fin - ger fetched seven suns a way.\_\_\_\_\_

B. *p* There was\_\_\_\_\_ a boy.\_\_\_\_\_

22

*mf* *ff*

S. *divisi* He was not dropped in good for lamb - ing wea - ther.\_\_\_\_

*mf* *ff*

S. He was not dropped in good for lamb - ing wea - ther.\_\_\_\_

*mf* *ff*

A. *divisi* He was not dropped in good for lamb - ing wea - ther.\_\_\_\_

*mf* *ff*

A. He was not dropped in good for lamb - ing wea - ther.\_\_\_\_

*mf* *ff*

T. *divisi* He was not dropped in good for lamb - ing wea - ther.\_\_\_\_

*mf* *ff*

T. He was not dropped in good for lamb - ing wea - ther.\_\_\_\_

*mf* *ff*

B. *divisi* He was not dropped in good for lamb - ing wea - ther.\_\_\_\_

*mf* *ff*

B. He was not dropped in good for lamb - ing wea - ther.\_\_\_\_

26

*f* *ff*

S. — He took no suck when shook buds sing to - ge - ther. —

*f* *ff*

S. — He took no suck when shook buds sing to - ge - ther. —

*f* *ff*

A. — He took no suck when shook buds sing to - ge - ther. —

*f* *ff*

A. — He took no suck when shook buds sing to - ge - ther. —

*f* *ff*

T. — He took no suck when shook buds sing to - ge - ther. —

*f* *ff*

T. — He took no suck when shook buds sing to - ge - ther. —

*f* *ff*

B. — He took no suck when shook buds sing to - ge - ther. —

*f* *ff*

B. — He took no suck when shook buds sing to - ge - ther. —

31 unis. *p* *mf*

S. But he is come in cold - as - work-house wea -

A. But he is come in cold - as - work-house wea -

T. But he is come in cold - as - work-house wea -

B. But he is come in cold - as - work-house wea -

Great Bardfield 15th December 1977

35 *p* *pp*

S. ther. Poor as a Sal - ford Child. \_\_\_\_\_

A. ther. Poor as a Sal - ford Child. \_\_\_\_\_

T. ther. Poor as a Sal - ford Child. \_\_\_\_\_

B. ther. Poor as a Sal - ford Child. \_\_\_\_\_