

The Bremen Town Musicians go West

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1] music (#1)

2] Once upon a time
in the old Wild West >
a rancher had a donkey, >
who was the very best. >
He was big! He was strong! .
And his ears were extra long! >

3a] But ...> tick-tock, tick-tock
went the clock,
time went rushin' by. >
3b] Sun up, sun down,
the days just seemed to fly! >
3c] He grew old, a little lame, >
and his strength began to wane. >

4] So the rancher started thinking: >
"I must get rid of him!
I must get rid of him!" >
But, the donkey very slyly
crept off in the night ... >

5] "I will trot," said the donkey, >
"I will trot off to see >
what a wonderful musician
in Portland I can be." >

6] traveling music (#2)

7] Well ... he'd trekked a little ways—
not a long little ways,
just a middle little ways,
not a short little ways— >
when there upon the trail >

lay a-panting and a-puffing >
 a very old dog, >
 just a-panting and a-puffing. >

9] "Howdy, partner! Why so glum? >
 Your ears are badly drooping
 and your face is extra long!" >

10] "Woof! Woof!" said the dog,
 "Ah, shucks!
 I'm getting very old.
 I'm so very old
 that I cannot even work. >
 So my boss he started thinking: >
 'I must get rid of him!
 I must get rid of him!' >
 But, I crept off very slyly
 in the middle of the night." >

11] "Come with me," said the donkey,
 "come with me and we'll see, >
 what wonderful musicians
 in Portland we can be." >

12] traveling music (#3)

13] Well ... they'd gone a little ways—
 not a long little ways,
 just a middle little ways,
 not a short little ways— >
 when there upon a stump, >
 with a very sad face, >
 sat an old tabby cat
 with a very sad face. >

15] "Howdy, partner! Why so sad? >
 You look as if your life is bad!" >

16] "Meow," said the cat, >
 "I can't catch a rat, >
 I can't catch a rat
 'coz I'm so very old. >
 And my madam started thinking: >
 'I must get rid of her!
 I must get rid of her!' >
 But I crept off very slyly
 in the middle of the night." >

17] "Come with us," said the donkey, >"come with us and we'll see >
what wonderful musicians
in Portland we can be." >

18] traveling music (#4)

19] Well ... they'd gone a little ways—
not a long little ways,
just a middle little ways,
not a short little ways— >
when high on a coral >
going Cock-a-diddle-doo >
perched a very noisy rooster, >
going Cock-a-diddle-doo! >

20] music (#5)

21] "Howdy, partner! What a racket!"
"Such a noise I've never heard
in all my living life!" >

22] "Alas," said the rooster, >
"I'll soon be chicken soup, >
'coz I cockle from the morning
till the cows come in. >
So my mistress started thinking:>(speaker) sniffs
'I must get rid of him. > (speaker) snorts (sneezes)
I must get rid of him!' > (speaker) smaller sniff
But I crept off very slyly
in the middle of the night." >

23] "Come with us," said the donkey,
"Come with us, and we'll see, >
what wonderful musicians
in Portland we can be." >

24] traveling music (#6)

25] On they went a-wand'ring, >
on the wagon road they went, >
through a desert and up a canyon >
till the day was almost spent. >

26] "We sure could use a place to sleep," >
said the donkey to his friends, >
"And have some swill and eat our fill
before this journey ends." >

27] "Y'all watch out!" crowed the rooster >
 and he stretched his mighty wings, >
 he flew up on a Western pine
 and there began to ... ahem ... sing.

28] "Cock-a-diddle dee!
 What do I see? >
 "From the top of this here tree,
 a yonder light I see!" >pause

29] So ... off they went on tiptoes,
 on tiptoes,
 on tiptoes,
 off they went on tiptoes
 a-tripping down a track ...
 till they came to the light
 and saw it was a shack. >

30] Then the donkey very slyly
 peered in a window pane. >
 "Jiminy crickets!
 What do I see! >
 But a table filled with food, >
 and bandits making merry!" >

31] Bandit dance (#7)
 {pause}
 32a] So ... they huddled in a bunch
 to think of a plan; >
 32b] they scratched their heads
 and strained their brains, (curve)
 thinking of a plan ... Aha!

33] The donkey stood up
 with his feet upon the window,
 and the dog upon the donkey,
 and the cat upon the dog,
 and the cock upon the cat,
 who perched upon his head. >

34a] "COCK-A-DIDDLE-DOO!"
 crowed the cock, >
 "MEOW!"
 screeched the cat, >
 "BOW-WOW!"
 barked the dog, >
 "HEE-HAW! HEE-HAW!"

brayed the donkey, >
 34b] and they all jumped through the window
 with a terrible, terrible clatter! >
 What a noise! Such a noise! >
 What a terrible, terrible clatter! >

35] "Help! Help!" cried the bandits. >
 Help! Help! Run away! >
 A spooky old sheriff >
 is chasing us away!" >

36] Animal dance music (#8)

37] Well ... after the bandits had run away
 our partners sat down to eat— >
 Not a little tiny bite,
 nor a middle, middle bite,
 but a great big monstrous feast!
 They ate everything in sight! >

38] Then after they had eaten
 they all felt kinda tired ...
 they all felt kinda tired ...
 ... music (#9)... >
 they all felt kinda tired ...
 ... music (#9) repeated

39] So the donkey found the lean-to
 ... music (#10)... >
 and the dog lay behind the door
 ... music (#11)... >
 and the cat curled near the fire
 ... music (#12)... >
 and the rooster flapped his wings
 up and down,
 up and down,
 and flew to the rafters
 ... music (#13)... >

and they all fell sound asleep,
 sound asleep at last,
 sound asleep at last ...

40] lullaby music (#14)

41] After a while ... >
 the bandits came a-creeping back
 a-creeping back
 a-creeping back
 the bandits came a-creeping back
 a-creeping through the brush. >

42a] "HISS!" went the cat at them, >
 and the dog BIT at them, >
 and the donkey KICKED at them, >
 42b] and the cock crowed:
 COCK-A-DIDDLE-DOO!
 COCK-A-DIDDLE-DOO! >

43a] "Help! Help" cried the bandits.
 "Help! Help! Run away! >
 43b] That frightful old sheriff
 is in our house to stay!" >

44a] And they all rode away
 and never came back. >
 44b] But our friends were very happy,
 and they live there to this day. >

45] Animal dance music (#15)