



# Three Ravens

**Arranged by**  
**Kathryn Davidson**

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## ***The Full English***

The Full English was a unique nationwide project unlocking hidden treasures of England's cultural heritage by making over 58,000 original source documents from 12 major folk collectors available to the world via a ground-breaking nationwide digital archive and learning project. The project was led by the English Folk Dance and Song Society (EFDSS), funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and in partnership with other cultural partners across England.

The Full English digital archive ([www.vwml.org](http://www.vwml.org)) continues to provide access to thousands of records detailing traditional folk songs, music, dances, customs and traditions that were collected from across the country. Some of these are known widely, others have lain dormant in notebooks and files within archives for decades.

The Full English learning programme worked across the country in 19 different schools including primary, secondary and special educational needs settings. It also worked with a range of cultural partners across England, organising community, family and adult learning events.

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Written by: Kathryn Davidson

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## Arranger's Notes

Whilst written out in treble clef this piece is singable by any combination of voice types, and in fact would sound beautiful if male and female voices were mixed on each part - that way it would feel like six parts rather than three.

As an arrangement I would perhaps use voices one and three for verse one, one and two for verse two and all three for verse three. This will just add some texture to it. That said, I'm happy for people to do with this as they please.

## Kathryn Davidson

Kathryn is Folk Strand Leader for Sage Gateshead's Learning and Participation department and holds a degree in Folk and Traditional Music from Newcastle University. Nationally sought-after as a choir leader and vocal tutor, her approach is flexible and tailored to her pupils. As a choir leader she creates bespoke arrangements of folk songs, often from her native Northumberland.

Her debut solo album *The Lass will Not Learn* was released in 2012 and she codirects the Folkworks Adult Summer Schools. Kathryn worked on two schools projects for The Full English, and also ran a community choir event at Sage Gateshead drawing on material from The Full English digital archive.

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## Three Ravens

*Collected from Frank Kidson by Anne G. Gilchrist*

[www.vwml.org/record/AGG/6/80](http://www.vwml.org/record/AGG/6/80) Roud Number: 5

There were three ravens on a tree  
A-down, a-down, a-derry down  
There were three ravens on a tree  
Hey-ho!

The middle most raven said to me  
There lies a dead man at yon tree  
A-down, a-down, a-derry down  
Hey ho.

There comes his lady full of woe  
A-down, a-down, a-derry down  
There comes his lady full of woe  
Hey-ho!  
There comes his lady full of woe  
As great with child as she could go  
A-down, a-down, a-derry down  
Hey ho.

Who's this that's killed my own true love  
A-down, a-down, a-derry down  
Who's this that's killed my own true love  
Hey-ho!  
I hope in Heaven he'll never rest  
Nor e'er enjoy that blessed place  
A-down, a-down, a-derry down  
Hey ho.

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Roud Number: 5

Trad. Arr. Kathryn Davidson

High

Tune

Low

There were three ra-vens on a tree, a- down, a- down, a - der-ry down. There

5

were three ra-vens on a tree, hey ho. The mid-dle most ra-ven said to me there

10

lies a dead man at yon tree, a- down a- down a der-ry down hey ho.

The Full English: [www.vwml.org](http://www.vwml.org)  
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