

# The Cherry Tree Carol

This is one of the most popular of English religious folk ballads.

Tablatured by Burt I. Kahn

G

D G C D

G

This is one of the most popular of English religious folk ballads. Derived from the Pseudo-Matthew gospel, and in medieval times was frequently dramatized in folk plays.

## Lyrics:

When Joseph was an old man,  
an old man was he,  
He married Virgin Mary,  
the queen of Galilee,  
He married Virgin Mary,  
the queen of Galilee.

**The Cherry Tree Carol - This is one of the most popular of English religious folk ballads.**

**Joseph and Mary walked  
through an orchard green,  
There were berries and  
cherries as thick as might be seen  
There were berries and  
cherries as thick as might be seen**

**And Mary spoke to Joseph,  
so meek and so mild,  
"Joseph gather me some cherries,  
for I am with child,  
Joseph gather me some cherries,  
for I am with child."**

**And Joseph flew in anger,  
in anger flew he,  
"Let the father of the baby  
gather cherries for thee,  
Let the father of the baby  
gather cherries for thee."**

**Then up spoke the baby  
Jesus from in Mary's womb,  
"Bend down the tallest tree  
that my mother might have some,  
Bend down the tallest tree  
that my mother might have some."**

**And bent down the tallest branch,  
'till it touched Mary's hand,  
Cried she, "Oh look thou Joseph  
I have cherries by command,"  
Cried she, "Oh look thou Joseph  
I have cherries by command."**