

# The cat came back

(Traditional)

Old Mr. Johnson had trouble all his own  
He had a yellow cat that wouldn't leave his home  
He tried in every way to keep that cat away  
Took him up to Canada and told him for to stay

*But the cat came back the very next day  
The cat came back, they thought he was a goner  
But the cat came back, he just wouldn't stay away*

On a telegraph wire the birds were sitting in a bunch  
He saw an even number, said he'd have 'em for his lunch  
Climbed softly up the pole until he reached the top  
Put his foot upon the 'lectric wire, tied him in a knot

This cat had company out in the backyard  
Somebody threw a boot and threw it awful hard  
Hit the cat behind the ear and he thought it was a slight  
And down came a brick and knocked him out of sight

They threw him in the kennel where the dog was asleep  
And the bones of cats lay piled in a heap  
That kennel burst apart and the dog flew out the side  
With his ears chewed off and holes in his hide

They sneaked him in a shop with the butcher not around  
And they dropped him in the hopper where the meat was ground  
The cat despaired with a blood-curdling shriek  
And that shop's hamburger tasted furry for a week

They put him in a cotton sack and gave him to a girl  
Who'd started on a bicycle all around the world  
Well, over there in China a terrible wreck was found  
She's singing now in heaven with the angels all around

Now this cat was a terror and they thought it would be best  
To give him to a feller who was going way out west  
Train ran round a curve and hit a broken rail  
Not a blessed soul aboard that train lived to tell the tale

The cat was a possessor of a family all its own  
With seven little kittens till there was a cyclone  
Blew the houses all apart and tossed the cat around  
The air was full of kittens and not a one was found

Away across the ocean they did send the cat at last  
Vessel only out a day and taking water fast  
People all began to pray, the boat began to toss  
A great big gust of wind came by and every soul was lost

They gave the cat to a man in a balloon  
And told him to give him to the man in the moon  
But the balloon it busted and everybody said  
Ten miles away they picked the man up dead

At last they found a way this cat to really fix  
They put him in an orange crate on highway 66  
Come a ten ton truck with a twenty ton load  
Scattered pieces of that orange crate a mile down the road

They put him on a boat bound for Sydney town  
They thought with all that rain there he'd surely drowned  
When the rain came down for the 92nd day  
That whole darn city just floated out the bay

The farmer on the corner said he'd shoot that cat on sight  
Loaded up his shotgun full of nails and dynamite  
And he hid in the garden till the cat came round  
But 97 pieces of that man were all they found

They put him on the White House lawn, I'll tell the reason why  
With all the golfballs flying, they thought he'd surely die  
Well the very next morning, what do you think they found  
64 squirrels lying dead upon the ground

Gave him to a little boy with a dollar note  
Who was going out to sea in an open boat  
They tied a rock around his neck, it must have weighed a pound  
Now they're dragging up the river, cause the little boy was drowned

They took him down to Cape Canaveral & they put him into place  
And they shot him in a satellite way up into space  
They thought that the cat was beyond human reach  
And then they got a phone call from Miami Beach

An H bomb fell just the other day,  
A bomb fell in the very same way  
Russia went, England went, then the USA  
The whole human race gone without a chance to pray