# Sungs from the British Isles



### Lili Burlero



#### Lilli Burlero Teacher notes

Included in this pack are the following materials:

- MIDI file for accompanying the song
- Song words (full version and short version)
- Information sheet/worksheet on the song
- Arrangement for classroom instruments (melody, harmony, bass)
- Full band arrangement of the song for flexible band.

Note that the full version of the song contains words that may be offensive in some parts of the British Isles, so the short version may be preferred.

#### Lili Burlero (Full version)

Ho brother Teague,
Dost hear de decree?
Lilli burlero, bullen a la;
Dat we shall have a new deputie,
Lilli burlero, bullen a la.
Lero, lero, lilli burlero,
Lilli burlero, bullen a la
Lero, lero, lero lero
Lilli burlero, bullen a la

Ho, by my Soul, it is a Talbot; Lilli burlero, bullen a la And he will cut all de English throat Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lilli burlero, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lero lero Lilli burlero, bullen a la

Though, by my soul, de Enlish do prate, Lilli burlero, bullen a la De law's on dere side and de divil knows what, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lilli burlero, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lero lero Lilli burlero, bullen a la

But if Depense do come from de Pope Lilli burlero, bullen a la We'll hang Magna Carta demselves on a rope Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lilli burlero, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lero lero Lilli burlero, bullen a la

And de good Talbot is now made a Lord, Lilli burlero, bullen a la And with his brave lads he's coming aboard, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lilli burlero, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lero lero Lilli burlero, bullen a la

Who all in France have taken a swear, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Dat day will have no Protestant heir, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lilli burlero, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lero lero Lilli burlero, bullen a la

O but why does he stay behind?
Lilli burlero, bullen a la
Ho, by my soul, 'tis a Protestant wind,
Lilli burlero, bullen a la
Lero, lero, lilli burlero,
Lilli burlero, bullen a la
Lero, lero, lero lero
Lilli burlero, bullen a la

Now that Tyrconnel is come ashore, Lilli burlero, bullen a la And we shall have comissions galore. Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lilli burlero, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lero lero Lilli burlero, bullen a la

And he dat will not go to Mass, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Shall be turned out and look like an ass, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lilli burlero, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lero lero Lilli burlero, bullen a la

Now, now de hereticks all will go down, Lilli burlero, bullen a la By Christ and St. Patrick's the nation's our own, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lilli burlero, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lero lero Lilli burlero, bullen a la

Dere was an old prophercy found in a bog, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Dat our land would be ruled by an ass and a dog, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lilli burlero, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lero lero Lilli burlero, bullen a la

So now dis old prophecy's coming to pass, Lilli burlero, bullen a la For James is de dog and Tyrconnel's de ass, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lilli burlero, Lilli burlero, bullen a la Lero, lero, lero lero Lilli burlero, bullen a l

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#### Lili Burlero - The history of the song

According to legend this tune first appears in 1641 in Ulster. Richard Talbot (1630-1691), a Catholic and Royalist, had been made Earl of Tyrconnel after the Restoration and King James II later appointed him Lord Lieutenant of Ireland (1686). He pursued strong pro-Catholic policies. Even after James was deposed in England, Tyrconnel governed Ireland in James' name. Irish Catholic forces were eventually defeated by William. English and Irish Protestants took up the song as their melody during that time.

According to one source the words "lillibulero" and "bullen al-a" were used as a rallying cry for the Irish to recognize one another in the uprising in 1641. Later in 1687, Thomas, Lord Wharton (1640-1715), wrote a set of satirical verses titled Lillibolero regarding the Irish problems and set them to a melody arranged by Henry Purcell in 1678. Purcell's arrangement was based on an older tune under the name Quickstep which appeared in Robert Carr's Delightful Companion (1686). It became popular immediately.

John Gay used the tune in *The Beggar's Opera*. It was the British Broadcasting Corporation's signature theme during World War II.

"Brother Teague" was then the nickname of the Irishmen (as "John Bull" would later be for Englishmen).



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## Look at the information and the printed music for the song *Lilli Burlero* and answer these questions.

- 1. In which century did the tune first appear?
- 2. The text says that Richard Talbot was a Royalist. What does this mean?
- 3. What does Lilli Burlero mean?
- 4. In which opera was the tune used?
- 5. In the sheet music of the song, look at the tune. Fill in what happens at each of these bars. It has been started for you.

BAR 1	1 <sup>ST</sup> TUNE STARTS
BAR 5	
BAR 9	
BAR 13	

- 6. What is the highest note and in which bar is it played?
- 7. What is the lowest note and in which bar is it played?
- 8. What is the name of the BLACK NOTE played at bar 10?
- 9. What is the similarity between the bass and tune in bars 13 and 14?
- 10 What is the difference between the bass and tune in bars 13 and 14?

