

(The Daring Young) Man on the Flying Trapeze

(1867)

Tune D-F#-A
For diatonic dulcimer

Music: Gaston Lyle & Alfred Lee

Words: George Leybourne

Arr: Ruth Randle 2009

1. Once I was hap - py, but now I'm for - lorn, Like an old

0 0 3 4 | 0 5 5 5 | 3 3 3 | 1 1 1 | 4 4 3

6 coat that is tat-ter'd and torn; Left on this wideworld to fret and to

4 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 | 3 3 3 | 3 3 3

12 mourn, Be - tray'd by a maid in her teens. The

1 1 4 4 | 4 4 4 | 0 0 0 0 | 3 3 2

17 girl that I lov'd, she was hand - some, I tried all I knew, her to

2 2 3 3 | 2 3 3 | 3 3 3 | 3 2 3 3 | 3 2 3

23 please, But I could not please her one quar - ter so

2 2 3 2 | 2 3 3 | 2 3 3 | 3 2 3 | 3 5 5

28 D Maj7 F# A

well, As that man on the fly - ing tra - peze...

TAB: 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 7

33 D G E

He'd fly thro' the air with the great - est of ease, That

TAB: 0 0 3 4 5 5 5 6 3 3 1 1 4 4

38 A A D

dar - ing young man on the fly - ing tra - peze; His

TAB: 4 4 3 4 5 4 4 3 1 0 0 0 0

42 G E

move - ments were grace - ful, all girls he did please, And my

TAB: 0 0 3 4 5 5 5 6 3 3 3 1 1 7 7

46 A D

love he has pur - loin'd a - way.

TAB: 4 4 4 4 4 0 0 0 3 3 3 3

(The Daring Young) Man On the Flying Trapeze

1. Once I was happy, but now I'm forlorn, Like an old coat that is tatter'd and torn;
Left on this wide world to fret and to mourn, Betray'd by a maid in her teens.
The girl that I lov'd, she was handsome, I tried all I knew, her to please,
But I could not please her one quarter so well As that man on the flying trapeze.

Chorus:

He'd fly thro' the air with the greatest of ease, That daring young man on the flying trapeze;
His movements were graceful, all girls he did please, And my love he has purloin'd away.

2. This young man by name was Signor Bona Slang; Tall, big, and handsome, as well made as Chang;
Where'er he appeared the hall loudly rang With ovation from all people there.
He'd smile from the bar on the people below, And one night he smil'd on my love,
She wink'd back at him, and she shouted "Bravo!" As he hung by his nose up above!

Chorus:

He'd fly thro' the air with the greatest of ease, That daring young man on the flying trapeze;
His movements were graceful, all girls he did please, And my love he has purloin'd away.

3. Her father and mother were both on my side, And very hard tried to make her my own bride;
Her father he sighed, and her mother she cried, To see her throw herself away.
'Twas all no avail, she went there every night, And would throw him bouquets on the stage,
Which caus'd him to meet her; how he ran me down, To tell you, would take a whole page.

Chorus:

He'd fly thro' the air with the greatest of ease, That daring young man on the flying trapeze
His movements were graceful, all girls he did please, And my love he has purloin'd away.

4. One night I, as usual, went to her dear home, Found there, her father and mother alone;
I ask'd for my love, and soon they made known, To my horror, that she'd run away!
She'd pack'd up her box, and eloped in the night With him, with the greatest of ease;
From two stories high, he had lowered her down To the ground on his flying trapeze.

Chorus:

He'd fly thro' the air with the greatest of ease, That daring young man on the flying trapeze;
His movements were graceful, all girls he did please, And my love he has purloin'd away.

5. Some months after this I went to the Hall; Was greatly surprised to see on the wall
A bill in red letters, which did my heart gall, That she was appearing with him:
He taught her gymnastics, and dressed her in tights, To help him to live at his ease,
And made her assume a masculine name, And now she goes on the trapeze.

Final Chorus:

She floats thro' the air with the greatest of ease, You'd think her a man on the flying trapeze;
She does all the work, while he take his ease, And that's what's become of my love.