

There were three ravens

Text und Melodie: trad., aufgeschrieben von

Thomas Ravenscroft (ca. 1592–1635)

Satz: Thomas Ravenscroft,

in: *Melismata*, 1611

Soprano
1. There were three ra - vens sat on a tree, down a - down, hey down a - down. There

Alto
1. There were three ra - vens sat on a tree, down a - down, hey - down a - down. There

Tenore
1. There were three ra - vens sat on a tree, down a - down, hey down a - down. There

Basso
1. There were three ra - vens sat on a tree, down a - down, hey down a - down. There

5
were three ravens sat on a tree, with a - down. There were three ravens sat on a tree, they

10
were as black might be, with a - down hey der - ry der - ry down down down.
they might be, with a - down down der - ry down down.

2. The one of them said to his mate,
down adown, hey down adown,
the one of them said to his mate, with adown.
The one of them said to his mate,
7 where shall we our breakfast take?
With adown, (hey) derry derry derry down down.

Weitere Strophen in gleicher Form. / Remaining verses similarly

3. 3 Down in yonder green field,
there lies a knight slain under his shield.

4. His hounds they lie down at his feet,
so well they can his master keep.

5. His hawks they fly so eagerly,
7 there's no fowle dare come him nie.

6. 3 Down there comes a fellow doe,
as great with yong as she might goe.

7. 3 She lift up his bloody hed,
and kist his wounds that were so red.

8. She get him up upon her backe,
and carried him to earthen lake.

9. She buried him before the prime
she was dead herself ere ev'nsong time.

10. 3 God send every gentleman
such hawks, such hounds and such a leman*.

* leman = lover / Geliebte