

Lavender's Blue

Lavender's blue, diddle diddle
Lavender's green,
When I am king, diddle diddle
You shall be queen.

Lavender's green, diddle diddle
Lavender's blue,
You must love me, diddle diddle
'Cause I love you.

Down in the vale, diddle diddle
Where flowers grow,
And the birds sing, diddle diddle
All in a row.

Lavender's blue, diddle diddle
Lavender's green,
Let me be king, diddle diddle
You be the queen.

Lavender's green, diddle diddle
Lavender's blue,
You must love me, diddle diddle
'Cause I love you.

Lavender's Blue

Many a nursery rhyme was far in spirit from the nursery in its earliest version. Here is one, dating from 1672, that has as its prototype a song called "Diddle-diddle, or The Kind Country Lovers." I have eliminated nine verses, not for bowdlerization, but because they incline to dullness.



Allegretto

D A7 D G A7 D
 Lav - en - der's blue dil - ly dil - ly Lav - en - der's green,
 mf

Music score for two voices (soprano and bass) and piano. The piano part is in the bass clef, and the voices are in the soprano clef. The music consists of two staves. The first staff starts with a D major chord, followed by an A7 chord, then a D major chord. The lyrics "Lav - en - der's blue" are sung over the first two chords, and "dil - ly dil - ly" over the last. The second staff starts with a G major chord, followed by an A7 chord, then a D major chord. The lyrics "Lav - en - der's green," are sung over the last two chords. The piano part provides harmonic support with sustained notes and chords.

G A7 D Em7 A7 D
 When I am king, dil - ly dil - ly You shall be queen.

Music score for two voices (soprano and bass) and piano. The piano part is in the bass clef, and the voices are in the soprano clef. The music consists of two staves. The first staff starts with a G major chord, followed by an A7 chord, then a D major chord. The lyrics "When I am king," are sung over the first two chords, and "dil - ly dil - ly" over the last. The second staff starts with an Em7 chord, followed by an A7 chord, then a D major chord. The lyrics "You shall be queen." are sung over the last two chords. The piano part provides harmonic support with sustained notes and chords.

Some current versions substitute dilly dilly for diddle diddle. Take your choice.

Lavender's blue, diddle diddle,
Lavender's green,
When I am king, diddle diddle,
You shall be queen.

Lavender's green, diddle diddle,
Lavender's blue,
You must love me, diddle diddle,
'Cause I love you.

Down in the vale, diddle diddle,
Where flowers grow,
And the birds sing, diddle diddle,
All in a row.

A brisk young man, diddle diddle,
Met with a maid,
And laid her down, diddle diddle,
Under the shade.

There they did play, diddle diddle,
And kiss and court,
All the fine day, diddle diddle,
Making good sport.

I've heard them say, diddle diddle,
Since I came hither
That you and I, diddle diddle,
Might lie together.

BE

Therefore be kind, diddle diddle,
While here we lie,
And you will love, diddle diddle,
My dog and I.

For you and I, diddle diddle,
Now all are one,
And we will lie, diddle diddle,
No more alone.

Lavender's blue, diddle diddle,
Lavender's green,
Let me be king, diddle diddle,
You be the queen.

Lavender's green, diddle diddle,
Lavender's blue,
You must love me, diddle diddle,
'Cause I love you.

