

An Orcadian Cradle Song

Words: Robert Menzies Fergusson

Tune & arrangement: Brian Cromarty

Ba, ba, lammie noo
Cuddle doon tae mammie;
Trowies canna ta' thoo
Hushie ba lammie

Me bonnie peerie bird
Sleepin' in me bosie;
We manna speak a word
Pirrins noo sae cosy

Ba, ba peerie t'ing
Sleep a bonnie nappie;
Thoo'll sleep an' I will sing
Makin' lassack happy

Faither's fishin' in the sea
Catchin' cod wi' herrin';
Brinigin' home his fish tae thee-
Tae me sonsie bairnie

Ba, ba lammie noo
Cuddle doon tae mammie;
Trowies canna tak' thoo
Hushie ba lammie
Hushie ba lammie
Hushie ba...

pirrins: a name applied to a little girl

From *The Viking's Bride and Other Poems* (1896), published in *An Anthology of Orkney Verse* compiled & edited by Ernest W Marwick (1949)