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# *Ballad of the Dead Cat*

*Words and Music by*

**Ruth B. Gatrell**



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# Ballad of the Dead Cat

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Moderato ♩ = 76 (with humor)

Once two wid - ows, pe - tle, in white hous - es so neat  
can - yon - breeze gent - ly swayed the tree, it  
feel - ings were bruised When one stood ac - cused Of  
stench got so bad And those neigh - bors so mad The  
did - n't help much For the mess was such That the  
cleaned and they sprayed; They were real - ly a - fraid The

Chanced to live side - by - side Life was peace - ful and sweet On that  
picked up that aw - ful scent Woke the sleep - er there Her  
hac - bor - ing an old dead cat Out of spite, it was said With  
farm - ly got in - to the act And a grand son es - pied Where  
cat was no long - er whole But that look a coal scoop To  
place would - n't be the same!

coun - try town - street 'Til that tom cat strayed in - and it died! How the  
nos - tils a - flare When in through her win - dow went spat. How the  
loss of the head, Which start - ed that neigh - bor - hood fact. How the  
poor old Tom had died. Then the dead cat - ru - mor was fact. How the  
pick up the goop And bur - y it deep in a hole. Few - er  
rid of the sack. And bur - ied as well the blame! Then the

10

words did fly. Though nei - ther knew why. The air did - n't smell so  
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 words did fly. Though nei - ther knew why. The air did - n't smell so  
 words did - n't fly. For at last they knew why. The air did - n't smell so  
 words did - n't fly. There was no rea - son why. They should quarrel ev - ry time they'd

13

sweet. On kind - ling stacked high. Old Tom lay down to die. And  
 sweet. As the mag - gots had lunch, Fur fell out by the bunch. As Tom  
 sweet. They looked high and low. But still did - n't know Tom was  
 sweet. Poor Tom was still there. And he fouled up the air. As he  
 meet. For that stray cat was gone. So the good life went on in

*rit.*

18

spoiled in the sum - mer - time heat! As the  
 rot - ted a way in the heat! Oh, the  
 mould - er - ing a way in the heat! The  
 pu - tri - fied in the heat! Gloves  
 keep their cool in the heat! Oh, they  
 peace on that coun - try town street

*allegro*

1,2,3,4,5

# Music by Ruth Gattrell

## Choral Music

*Abide in My Love*  
*America--Land Choice above All Other Lands*  
*And I Saw Another Angel*  
*Ballad of the Dead Cat*  
*Circles of Influence*  
*Come What May*  
*Courageous Pioneers*  
*Daughters of Destiny*  
*Frustration*  
*Farmington, My Farmington*  
*Faith Precedes the Miracle*  
*Handcart Pioneer Prayer*  
*Heritage*  
*His Kingdom on Earth Ever Grows*  
*I Am the Resurrection*  
*I Have a Mother So Dear to Me*  
*I Like to Listen to the Prophet*  
*I Love America*  
*I'll Follow the Words of the Prophet*  
*In a Gospel Centered Home*  
*In Your Countenance*  
*Keep Me in Thy Way, O Lord*  
*Let Freedom Ring*  
*Let Me Do God's Work*  
*Let Us Go unto the Temple*  
*Let's Dance by the Firelight*  
*Listen to Counsel (The Saga of Haun's Mill)*  
*Look to the Future*  
*Love Grows As We Serve One Another*  
*Mother--Life of Love Unfeigned*  
*My Father Guides Me*  
*My Prayer*  
*One Mind, One Heart*  
*Psalms 67*  
*Pray unto the Lord*  
*Put on the Whole Armour of God*  
*Salute to Our Utah Pioneers*  
*Search the Scriptures*  
*She's My Sister*  
*The Gospel Makes Us One*  
*The Time Is Short*  
*There's Work to Be Done, But It's Lots of Fun*  
*Trusted*  
*Utah--What a Wonderful Place!*  
*We're Best Friends*  
*Work, Work, Work*  
*Why God Gave Us Mothers*  
*Who Was Mary?*  
*You Don't Have to*

## Instrumental

*Come, Come Ye Saints (arr. for Violin & Piano)*  
*Meditation (Violin Solo with Piano Acc.)*  
*Reubenesque (arr. for Violin & Piano)*  
*Silent Night (arr. for 3 Violins)*

## Children's Songs

*Draw Near unto Me*  
*I Like to Listen to the Prophet*  
*I Love America*  
*Let's Dance by the Firelight*  
*Mother Is My Dearest Friend*  
*My Father Guides Me*  
*Shepherd Boy*  
*We're Best Friends*  
*You Don't Have to*

## Christmas Music

*A New, Bright Shining Star*  
*Bells Ring in the Joyous Season*  
*Christmas Is a Time for Giving*  
*Christmas Star*  
*Christmas White*  
*It's Great to Be with Family at Christmastime*  
*God's Gift of His Son*  
*Mary's Love (Vocal Solo)*  
*No Room at the Inn*  
*Samuel the Lamanite Foretells Christ's Birth*  
*(Christmas Cantata)*  
*Sing We Now at Christmastime*  
*Shepherd Boy*  
*Shepherds Abiding on a Desert Hill*  
*The Reason for Christmas*  
*The Sign Has Been Given*  
*There's Nothing Like Christmas*  
*'Twas the Lambing Season*  
*What Would He Find?*  
*Who Was Mary?*

## Arrangements

*All Creatures of Our God and King*  
*America the Beautiful*  
*Carry Forth the Banner*  
*Come, Come Ye Saints*  
*Come, Oh come Emanuel*  
*El Condor Pasa*  
*Have Courage, My Boy, to Say No*  
*I Am a Mormon Boy*  
*Oh, How Lovely Was the Morning*  
*One in Christ*  
*Reubenesque (Violin Solo)*  
*Silent Night*  
*Sweet Is the Peace the Gospel Brings*  
*The Lord My Pasture Will Prepare*  
*The Daughters of the Utah Pioneers*  
*The Quilting Party*  
*The Spirit of God*  
*Write Your History*

## Vocal Solos

*Don't Say Goodby*  
*Farmington, My Farmington*  
*Frustration*  
*I Could Have Loved You*  
*I Want You Here*  
*I'll Love You Forever*  
*In Your Countenance*  
*Let Freedom Ring*  
*Mary's Love*  
*One Mind, One Heart*  
*The Love We Share*  
*Work, Work, Work*

## Piano Solos

*My Dog Spot*  
*Pocahontas*  
*Three Preludes for Piano*  
*Beginnings*  
*Life Stream*  
*Finality*