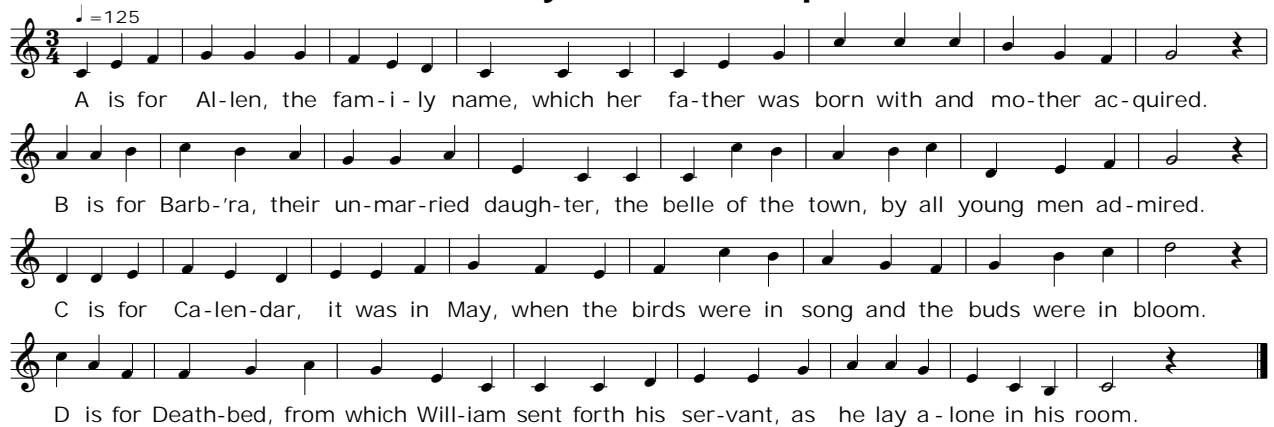


A Barb'ra Allen Alphabet

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A is for Al-len, the fam-i - ly name, which her fa-ther was born with and mo-ther ac-quired.

B is for Barb-'ra, their un-mar-ried daugh-ter, the belle of the town, by all young men ad-mired.

C is for Ca-len-dar, it was in May, when the birds were in song and the buds were in bloom.

D is for Death-bed, from which Will-iam sent forth his ser-vant, as he lay a - lone in his room.

A is for Allen, the family name, which her father was born with and mother acquired.

B is for Barb'ra, their unmarried daughter, the belle of the town, by all young men admired.

C is for Calendar, it was in May, when the birds were in song and the buds were in bloom.

D is for Death-bed, from which William sent forth his servant, as he lay alone in his room.

E is Entreaty, that "If your name be Barb'ra Allen, you come, for my master lies ill."

F is Fatality, that she predicted: "Young man, you are dying", as William lay still.

G is the Grant of a boon, just one kiss, that if she would bestow, he would live, he was sure.

H is Hard-hearted, a term she'd apply to herself before long, for withholding such cure.

I is for Incident. William had toasted some six other ladies, all pretty and young.

J is his Justification. Her name had a place in his heart, although not on his tongue.

K is for Kindling. As William grew chilled, his young servant laid wood and then coal for a fire.

L is Lucidity. William's was waning, with no hope of cure as his fever grew higher.

M is for Minutes, marked out by the watch he was leaving to Barb'ra. Its case was of gold.

N is for Nightshirt, encrusted with patches of blood, as he sweated first hot and then cold.

O is for Overflow, P is for Porcelain, the bowl insufficient for tears that he wept.

Q is for Quiet, and R is for Rest. Barb'ra silently left while, exhausted, he slept.

S is the Suddenness of his decline, for when Barb'ra departed, he drew his last breath.

T is the Toll of a church bell conveying to Barb'ra the news of his untimely death.

U is her Ultimate full day of life, as she knew on the morrow she surely would die.

V is for Vicar, reciting prayers over two congregants' graves 'ere the week had passed by.

W's Wood, which is lignified tissue, supporting the rose climbing out of the choir.

X is for Xylem, a structure in plants bringing nutrient sap to the top of the briar.

Y is Y-twined (a word found in Chaucer), a true lover's knot made of strands interwound.

Z is for Zenith, the sun at its height, which the stems strive to reach though their roots hug the ground.

Chaucer reference: [https://www.poetrysoup.com/famous/poems/anvil - say "eetwin-ed"](https://www.poetrysoup.com/famous/poems/anvil-say-eetwin-ed)

Howard L. Kaplan 172 Howland Avenue Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5R 3B6

howard@thrinberry-frog.com <http://www.thrinberry-frog.com>

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