

# LADYBUG, LADYBUG

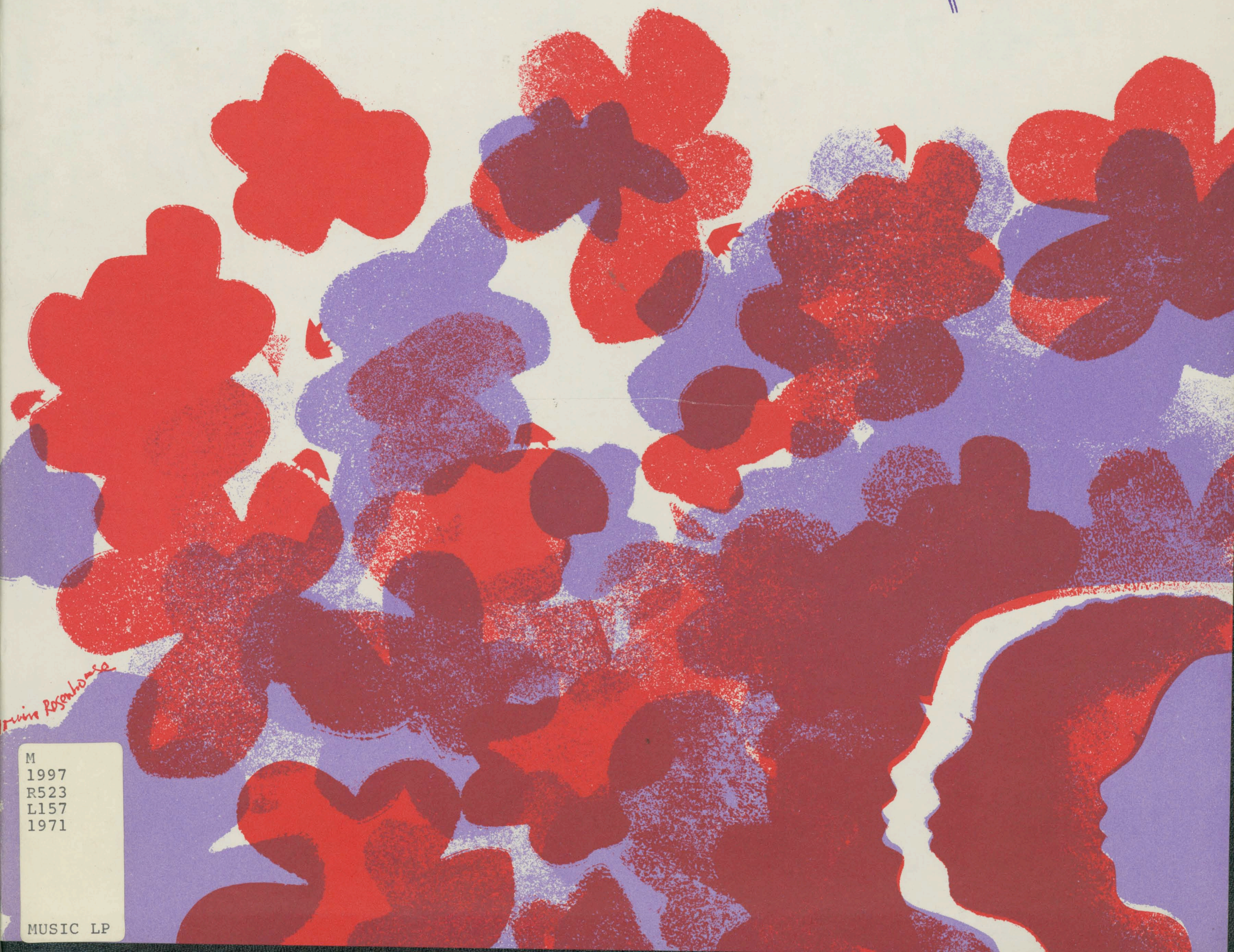
FOLKWAYS RECORDS

FL 7541 stereo

Intended for use on either STEREO or mono phonographs

and more children's songs

created and sung by JOHNNY RICHARDSON



M  
1997  
R523  
L157  
1971

MUSIC LP



Folkways FC 7541  
Intended for use on either STEREO or mono phonographs

**LADYBUG!**  
**LADYBUG**  
*and more children's*  
*Songs*  
by **JOHNNY RICHARDSON**

Library of Congress Card No. 74-752810

cover design by Irwin Rosenhouse

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43 W. 61st St., N.Y.C., 10023 N.Y., U.S.A.

**SIDE 1**

- Band 1 - Lady Bug
- Band 2 - Baby Birds in their nest
- Band 3 - My Parakeet
- Band 4 - Bimbo
- Band 5 - Baby Bumblebee
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- Band 7 - Six Little Ducks
- Band 8 - Sing in the Spring
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**SIDE 2**

- Band 1 - Molly the Monkey
- Band 2 - Six Little Bluebirds
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- Band 4 - Little John Brown
- Band 5 - My Dog Pal
- Band 6 - Little White Duck
- Band 7 - Shuckin the Corn
- Band 8 - Big Rock Candy Mountain



FOLKWAYS RECORDS Album No. FC 7541

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# LADYBUG, LADYBUG

*and other  
children songs*

## LADYBUG

by Johnny Richardson

When I woke up this morning,  
I saw a little ladybug,  
A-creeping from my window,  
And crept beneath my rug.

### CHORUS

Oh, there's a ladybug, ladybug, under my rug,  
A teeney, weeney ladybug,  
Ladybug, ladybug, under my rug,  
A tiny, winey ladybug,  
From my window, under my rug,  
Crept a little ladybug.

When I come home from shopping,  
I'd tiptoe in my door,  
And very, very careful,  
How I walk on my floor.

(CHORUS: Cause there's a ladybug---)

When friends would come to visit,  
I'd give them a great big hug,  
And ask them very nicely,  
Not to walk upon my rug.

(CHORUS: Cause there's a ladybug---)

## BABY BIRDS IN THEIR NESTS

by Johnny Richardson  
(based on an old folk poem)  
If baby birds are in their nests,  
I must not in my play,  
To climb upon the tree so high,  
And take the birdies away.

For my mother I know it would sorrow so,  
Should I be taken away,  
So I speak to the birds with tender words,  
Not to hurt them in my play.

### CHORUS

So fly birds, fly birds,  
Fly away to the sky,  
Fly birds, fly birds,

Fly away to the sky.

And soon the birds will flap their wings,  
And up and away they'll fly,  
And I'll be there to see them off,  
Into the bright blue sky.

(CHORUS: So fly birds, fly birds---)

And when they're high up in the sky,  
They will wobble a song to me,  
And if I am sad it will make me glad,  
To know that they are happy and free.

(CHORUS: So fly birds, fly birds---)

## MY PARAKEET

by Johnny Richardson

My Daddy brought me a present,  
And called me over to see,  
I opened up the box and looked,  
A pretty little parakeet.

### CHORUS

Oh, a parakeet - a parakeet,  
Prettiest little thing that you ever did see,  
A parakeet - a parakeet,  
A pretty little parakeet.

I took it out to play with it,  
As gentle as can be,  
It flew upon my window sill, and then flew back to me.

(CHORUS: Oh, a parakeet - a parakeet---)

It hopped upon my finger, upon my shoulder too,  
Such fun to watch it skip and hop,  
So many things it can do.

(CHORUS: Oh, a parakeet - a parakeet---)

I bought a golden cage for it,  
All trimmed with ribbons and beads,  
Some jingle bells to put inside,  
And lots of parakeet seeds.

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## BIMBO

by Johnny Richardson  
Oh, there's an elephant at the zoo,  
And he loves me, and he loves you.

Now what do you think would be his name? BIMBO, BIMBO,  
And who is gentle and who is tame? BIMBO, BIMBO,  
B-I-M-B-O, O-O-O, B-I-M-B-O, Hey BIMBO.

Now who is big and who is strong? BIMBO, BIMBO,  
And who will ride you all day long? BIMBO, BIMBO,  
B-I-M-B-O, O-O-O, B-I-M-B-O, Hey, BIMBO.

Now who is the greatest of them all? BIMBO, BIMBO,  
And who will answer to your call, BIMBO, BIMBO,  
B-I-M-B-O, O-O-O, B-I-M-B-O, Hey, BIMBO.

Oh, who would you want to be your friend? BIMBO, BIMBO,  
And who would love you to the end? BIMBO, BIMBO,  
B-I-M-B-O, O-O-O, B-I-M-B-O, Hey, BIMBO.

Oh, who is jolly as he can be? BIMBO, BIMBO,  
And who would you like to go and see? BIMBO, BIMBO,  
B-I-M-B-O, O-O-O, B-I-M-B-O, Hey, BIMBO.

## THE BABY BUMBLEBEE

by Johnny Richardson  
There's a fuzzy buzzy baby bumblebee,  
Kissing all the flowers on the flower tree,  
And look a little closer you will surely see,  
A B-A-B-Y baby bumblebee,  
With a buzz--buzz--buzz-- buzz busy as a bee,  
Buzz-buzz--buzz--buzz a baby bumblebee.

I was strolling through the meadow one bright and sunny  
day,  
And then I heard a buzz buzz all along the way,  
And what do you think it was that was following me?  
A B-A-B-Y baby bumblebee.  
With a buzz--buzz--buzz--buzz busy as a bee,  
Buzz--buzz--buzz--buzz a baby bumblebee.

If you take a walk among the bushes and the trees,  
You will surely hear the buzzing of the bees,  
And look a little closer you will surely see,  
A B-A-B-Y baby bumblebee,  
With a buzz--buzz--buzz--buzz busy as a bee,  
Buzz--buzz--buzz--buzz a baby bumblebee.

If I had a fuzzy baby bumblebee,  
I would sing for it, and it would sing for me,  
And when you come to visit, you would really see,  
A B-A-B-Y baby bumblebee,  
With a buzz--buzz--buzz--buzz busy as a bee,  
Buzz--buzz--buzz--buzz a baby bumblebee.

## THE BUNNY AND THE KANGAROO

by Johnny Richardson  
There was a little bunny and a kangaroo,  
They didn't have anything much to do,

So all day long they skipped and hopped,  
Hop, hop, hop and never stop.

## CHORUS

So hop, hop, hop, little bunny,  
My, oh my, you're funny,  
Hop, hop, hop, little kangaroo,  
My, oh my, you're funny too.

Well, the little bunny and the kangaroo,  
Decided that they would leave the zoo.  
Oh, they were clever, with lots of sense,  
They hopped right over the picket fence.

Oh, they hopped up, and they hopped down,  
They hopped, hopped, hopped right into town,  
The little bunny and the kangaroo,  
They hopped up and down the avenue.

Oh, the people came from everywhere,  
And then they all began to stare,  
And even the traffic began to stop,  
To see the kangaroo and the bunny hop.

Well, there they were just a-hopping around,  
Until the keeper came a-running to town,  
Then the little bunny and the kangaroo,  
They hopped right back into the zoo.

## SIX LITTLE DUCKS

by Johnny Richardson  
Six little ducks that I once knew,  
Fat ones, skinny ones, pretty ones too,  
But the one little duck with the feather in his back,  
He led the others with a quack-quack-quack,  
Quack-quack-quack-quack-quack-quack,  
He led the others with a quack-quack-quack.

Down to the river they did go,  
Wibble-wobble, wibble-wobble, ho-ho-ho,  
But the one little duck with a feather in his back,  
He led the others with a quack-quack-quack,  
Quack-quack-quack-quack-quack-quack,  
He led the others with a quack-quack-quack.

Home from the river they did come,  
Wibble-wobble, wibble-wobble, ho-ho-hum,  
But the one little duck with a feather in his back,  
He led the others with a quack-quack-quack,  
Quack-quack-quack-quack-quack-quack,  
He led the others with a quack-quack-quack.

## SING IN THE SPRING

by Johnny Richardson  
I had a mule, and his name was Jack,  
I had a mule and his name was Jack,  
Once I climbed upon old Jack,  
He jumped, and threw me off his back.

## CHORUS



Sing in the Spring, sing in the Fall,  
Sing when you hear my baby bawl,  
Sing all day and all night too,  
Hush your cry, and I'll sing for you.

I had a bird, all white and blue,  
I had a bird, all white and blue,  
There's nothing that little bird couldn't do,  
He could play the guitar and yoddlle yoo.

Once I had a tall giraffe,  
Once I had a tall giraffe,  
All day long he'd sing and laugh,  
My how he loves his bubble bath.

Once I had a little sheep,  
Once I had a little sheep,  
And whenever he goes to sleep,  
He counts people instead of sheep.

I had a horse, and his name was Tex,  
I had a horse, and his name was Tex,  
Whenever he would sign a check,  
He'd sign his name with a great big "X".

#### MY FUNNY HAMSTER

by Johnny Richardson

Oh, I have a hamster, fuzzy and brown,  
He hops up and down like a funny little clown.  
Oh, he can wiggle, and he can do the jig,  
And he can grunt like a little old pig, "oink, oink, oink".

All day long he'd climb and swing,  
And he could do most anything,  
Swing up and down like the monkeys do,  
And hop, hop, hop like a kangaroo.

He loves to ride in my pocket so deep,  
Raises his head and he takes a peek,  
Rolls his eyes and he looks at me,  
The funniest little hamster that you ever did see.

Around and around in my pocket he rolls,  
And when he's finished, it's all full of holes.  
I covered his cage with my shirt one night,  
And he chewed it all up, and oh what a sight!

Now rats and mice, they all love cheese,  
I gave him a little, but it made him sneeze,  
Then some crackers to have a little snack,  
And all I could hear was, "crack-crack-crack".

Now just before he goes to bed,  
He'd stuff his pouch with lots of bread,  
Lots of extras he would keep,  
And then he'd go right off to sleep, "Good night!"

#### MOLLY THE MONKEY

by Johnny Richardson

CHORUS

Molly the monkey, she rode to the fair on her donkey.

And out at the fair - everybody was there,  
To greet little Molly, the monkey.

'Twas on a bright Sunday, and the weather was clear,  
Said Molly, "What a nice day to go to the fair,"  
So she put on her fancies and combed out her hair,  
Then saddled her donkey, and off to the fair.

She was dolled up in ribbons and the finest of lace,  
With lovely little curls hanging down in her face,  
With rings on her fingers and bells on her toes,  
"Excuse me," she said, "while I powder my nose."

The band, it was playing, and the drums, "Bang bang,"  
And there was a contest, and Molly, she sang --  
Then everyone joined, and how they had fun!  
And when it was over, little Molly had won.

Now she was hungry, and it was quite late,  
So she went to a fruit stand just out by the gate,  
She asked for some peanuts, and found they had none,  
So she bought ten bananas, and ate every one.

By now she was tired, 'twas a very long day,  
So back on her donkey, and they're on their way -  
But wait 'till tomorrow - if there is no rain,  
You can be sure that she'll be back again.

#### SIX LITTLE BLUEBIRDS IN THE NEST

by Johnny Richardson

Six little bluebirds in the nest,  
One flew away and left the rest,  
Let me see if you can guess,  
How many bluebirds in the nest?  
(five) Yes, five little bluebirds in the nest.

Five little bluebirds in the nest,  
One flew away and left the rest,  
Let me see if you can guess,  
How many bluebirds in the nest?  
(four) Yes, four little bluebirds in the nest.

Four little bluebirds in the nest,  
One flew away and left the rest,  
Let me see if you can guess,  
How many bluebirds in the nest?  
(three) Yes, three little bluebirds in the nest.

Three little bluebirds in the nest,  
One flew away and left the rest,  
Let me see if you can guess,  
How many bluebirds in the nest?  
(two) Yes, two little bluebirds in the nest.

Two little bluebirds in the nest,  
One flew away and left the rest,  
Let me see if you can guess,  
How many bluebirds in the nest?  
(one) Yes, one little bluebird in the nest.

Now one little bluebird in the nest,  
It flew away and left the nest,  
Let me see if you can guess,  
How many bluebirds in the nest?  
(none) Yes, no more bluebirds in the nest.

## THE TALL GIRAFFE

by Johnny Richardson

Oh, I know a giraffe, and he's very, very tall,  
And you could never reach his head at all,  
Oh, no - oh, no - you could never reach his head at all.

With his long, long legs - and his long, long neck,  
Oh, he could eat a bushel, and he could eat a peck,  
Oh, yes - oh, yes - he could eat a bushel, and he could  
eat a peck.

Oh, he is very gentle, and very quiet too,  
But, he can make a sound like a cow, "moo-moo",  
Oh, yes, oh, yes - he can make a sound like a cow,  
"moo-moo".

He's also very fast, and you should see him run,  
At thirty miles an hour, he could pass us every one,  
Oh, yes - oh, yes - at thirty miles an hour, he could  
pass us every one.

He sleeps standing up in the evening or at night,  
But always on the alert, with his keen eyesight,  
Oh, yes - oh, yes - always on the alert, with his  
keen eyesight.

He gets very thirsty, the same as you and me,  
But, he gets moisture, eating leaves from the tree,  
Oh, yes - oh, yes - he gets moisture, eating leaves  
from the tree.

There're rivers, and lakes, and many little creeks,  
But he can do without water for days and even weeks,  
Oh, yes - oh, yes - he can do without water for days  
and even weeks.

Now if you see a giraffe, walking with his head up high,  
He's only showing off, as he goes strolling by,  
Oh, yes - oh, yes - he's only showing off, as he goes  
strolling by.

## LITTLE JOHNNY BROWN

by Johnny Richardson

INTRODUCTION: Little Johnny Brown lives out on the farm,  
'Sometimes it's noisy, and sometimes it's calm.

## CHORUS

Oh, little Johnny Brown, he lives out on the farm,  
Sometimes it's noisy, and sometimes it's calm,  
He plays with his animals just like a toy,  
So everybody calls him an animal boy.

Planting his wheat, corn and oats,  
To feed his horses, sheep and goats,  
Three little calves and a milking cow,  
He feeds them all, but I don't know how.

He also has a little pet dog,  
A billy goat, a donkey and a big muddy hog,  
Ducks in the pond -- fishes galore,  
A half dozen turtles, and oh lots more!

Cats and kittens, and a great big hound,  
All kinds of animals a-running around,  
Rabbits and squirrels, and a porcupine too,  
Everybody thinks that he's running a zoo.

## MY DOG PAL

by Johnny Richardson

Oh, once I had a little dog, oh how I loved him so,  
And everywhere that I would go, old Pal was sure to go,  
Well, he followed me to school one day, down by the desk  
he lie,  
Well, I knew he loved to go to school, but I never knew  
just why.

Well, the teacher said, "No dogs allowed." She said that  
was the rule,  
"For the children cannot read or write, while there's  
a dog in school."  
Says I to the teacher, "My dog I must defend,  
Of all the folks I ever knew, old Pal is my best  
friend."

So the teacher said, "Well, if he could read, he may  
remain in school."  
Old Pal, he heard what the teacher said, so he hopped  
upon a stool,  
Then he grabbed a book and commenced to read, "Ra-ra-ra-"  
he read,  
"Ra-ra-ra" and "woof-woof-woof," and those were the words  
he said.

Oh, what a big surprise it was, the things that he could  
do,  
Oh, he became the teacher's pet, and all the children's  
too,  
Now if you ever pass that school, just listen - and if  
you hear,  
"Ra-ra-ra" and "woof-woof-woof", then you know old Pal's  
in there.

## LITTLE WHITE DUCK

There's a little white duck, sitting in the water,  
A little white duck, doing what he ought to,  
He took a bite off a lilly pad, flapped his wings and  
he said I'm glad,  
I'm a little white duck, sitting in the water,  
quack, quack, quack.

There's a little green frog, swimming in the water,  
A little green frog, doing what he ought to,  
He jumped right off the lilly pad,  
That the little duck bit, and he said I'm glad,  
I'm a little green frog, swimming in the water,  
glump, glump, glump.

There's a little black bug, floating in the water,  
A little black bug, doing what he ought to,  
He tickled the frog on the lilly pad,  
That the little white duck bit, and he said I'm glad,  
I'm a little black bug, floating in the water,  
chirp, chirp, chirp.



There's a little red snake, playing in the water,  
A little red snake, doing what he ought to,  
He frightened the duck and the frog so bad,  
He ate the little bug, and he said I'm glad,  
I'm a little red snake, playing in the water,  
wriggle, wriggle, wriggle.

Now there's nobody left, swimming in the water,  
Nobody left, doing what he ought to,  
There's nothing left but the lilly pad,  
The duck and the frog ran away I'm glad,  
Cause there's nobody left swimming in the water,  
boo, hoo, hoo.

#### SHUCKIN' THE CORN

by Johnny Richardson  
Way down yonder where I was born,  
Shuckin' the corn all day.  
Picking the cotton, peas, and corn,  
Shuckin' the corn all day.  
Every morning when the roosters crow,  
Shuckin' the corn all day,  
Out in the cornfield we would go,

Shuckin' the corn all day.

#### CHORUS

Well it's all day, shuckin' the corn,  
All day shuckin' the corn,  
All day, all day, all day long.

Bright and early, 'fore the rising sun,  
Shuckin' the corn all day,  
Folks are out there on the run,  
Shuckin' the corn all day.  
Women and children, you should see,  
Shuckin' the corn all day,  
Everybody in the family,  
Shuckin' the corn all day.

Every evening when the sun goes down,  
Shuckin' the corn all day,  
We're in the wagon and homeward bound,  
Shuckin' the corn all day,  
And in the morning, if it doesn't rain,  
Shuckin' the corn all day,  
We're in the wagon and back out again,  
Shuckin' the corn all day.

#### THE BIG ROCK CANDY MOUNTAIN

#### CHORUS

Oh, the buzzing of the bees in the lollypop trees,  
The soda-water fountain, near the lemonade springs,  
Where the bluebird sings, in the big rock candy mountain.

On a summer day, in the month of May,  
Well, I went out a-hikin',  
Down the shady lane, near the sugar cane,  
I was looking for my likin',  
As I strolled along, I sang a song,  
Of a land of milk and honey,  
Where I could stay for many a day,  
And I won't need any money.

In the big rock candy mountain, there's a candy-coated  
house,

Where the bubble gum grows on a sweet gum tree,  
And the streets are of gold and silver,  
The barber shops have merry-go-rounds,  
And they're made of peppermint candy,  
And that's the place I long to be,  
Where everyone lives happy and free,  
In the big rock candy mountain.

Johnny Richardson is a folksinger and songwriter with a rich and varied repertoire. He specializes in all music rather than a single type, being just as much at home with ballads, worksongs, spirituals, calypso, contemporary, and especially with children's songs.

Most people can sense his deep feeling in the songs he presents, but especially his young audiences become completely captivated as he sings with them. Many nursery teachers are amazed at the length of time he could keep even the youngest children listening with rapt attention to song after song.

Children can really feel his warmth and sincerity, and are anxious to participate in the singing. He is successful at sharing experiences with children rather than singing down to them.

No wonder his album CHILDREN'S SONGS by JOHNNY RICHARDSON (FC 7036) has been so successful, captivating children in schools, libraries and homes all over the country and many parts of the world. It has been reported that in Venezuela children are learning English from this record because the diction is very clear. There have been many extremely favorable reviews in the educational field, and the record has been placed on recommended lists by the National Council of Teachers of English, the N.Y.C. Board of Education, and the Virginia Public School Libraries.

Johnny Richardson, who was born in South Carolina, seems to have always had a keen interest in music. He would sing to himself long ago as a youngster working on a farm, shucking corn or picking cotton, and he brings these farm experiences into his songwriting.

Johnny is a constant songwriter, because he is always thinking music - either over a song or developing a new song. He usually depends upon his own songwriting for material he feels would appeal to today's children in this modern age.

Therefore, Johnny now presents 22 new songs that he wrote, together with several others, that he sings in his unique, clear style, to create this new delightful album. Here is LADYBUG, LADYBUG and OTHER SONGS by Johnny Richardson, full of rhythm, sing along, and participation.