

# SUMER IS ICUMEN IN

MS Harley 978, c. 1260



Sum-er is i - cum-en in, Lhu-de sing cuc-cu. Grow-eth sed and blow-eth  
Per-spi-ce Christ-i - co-la que dig-na - ci - o Ce - li - cus ag - ri - co-



med And springth the wood-e nu, Sing cuc - cu. Aw - e blet-eth aft-er  
- la pro vi - tis vi - ci - o Fi - li - o non par-cens ex-po-su-



lomb, Lhouth aft - er cal - ue cu. Bull - uc stert - eth, buck - e uert - eth,  
- it mor - tis ex - i - ci - o Qui cap - tiv - os se - mi - viv - os



Mu-rie sing cuc-cu. Cuc-cu, cuc - cu, wel sing-es thu cuc - cu; Ne swik  
a sup - pli - ci - o Vi - te don - at et se-cum co - ron - at in ce-



thu nau-er nu.  
- li so - li - o.

Hanc rotam cantare possunt quatuor socij. A paucioribus autem quam a tribus uel saltem duobus non debet dici, preter eos qui dicunt pedem. Cantatur autem sic: Tacentibus ceteris unus inchoat cum hiis qui tenent pedem. Et cum uenerit ad primam notam post crucem, inchoat alius, et sic de ceteris. Singuli uero repaudent ad pausaciones scriptas et non alibi, spacio unius longe note.

*Four companions can sing this round. If there are fewer than three, or at least two, will not be insufficient to sing it, besides those who sing the pes. And it is sung thus: The others remaining silent, one [singer] begins with those who hold the pes. And when he comes to the first note after the cross, another begins, and in the same way the others. Each one rests at the marked rests and not elsewhere, for the space of one long note.*



Sing cuc-cu, nu. Sing cuc-cu.  
Re - gi - na Cœ-li, læ - ta - re.

**Hoc repetit unus quociens opus est, faciens pausacionem in finem.**

*One [singer] repeats this as many times as necessary, making a rest at the end.*



Sing cuc-cu. Sing cuc-cu, nu.  
Læ - ta - re, Re - gi - na Cœ-li.

**Hoc dicit alius, pausans in medio et non in fine, sed immediate repetens principium.**

*Another sings this, resting in the middle and not at the end, but immediately repeating the beginning.*

*The above is intended to reproduce as closely as possible the layout of the original manuscript, using modern notation and type, with translations of the rubrics added (italicised), and replacing the letter þ with th in the Middle English text.*

## Translations:

Summer has come in, loudly sing cuccu.  
The seed grows, the meadow blows,  
And the wood springs anew,  
Sing cuccu.  
The ewe bleats after the lamb,  
Lows after the calf the cow.  
Bullock starts, buck farts, merry sing cuccu.  
Cuccu, cuccu, well sing you cuccu,  
Do not ever stop now.

Sing cuccu, now. Sing cuccu.

Behold, Christian, what condescension.  
The farmer of heaven,  
For the fault of the vine,  
The Son  
did not spare, but exposed him  
to the ruin of death,  
Who to half-alive captives, from torment  
Gives life, and together with himself  
crowns them on heaven's throne.

*N.b. The Latin text to the pes is editorial.  
Queen of heaven, rejoice.*