

## The Cat Came Back

Written in 1893 by Harry S. Miller

Old Mr. Johnson had troubles of his own  
He had a big yellow cat that wouldn't leave home  
He tried, and he tried to give that cat away  
He gave it to a man who was going far away

### Chorus:

But the cat came back, the very next day  
Oh, the cat came back, you know they thought he was a goner  
But the cat came back, he just wouldn't stay away  
Oh, no, no

The man around the corner swore he'd shoot that cat on sight  
He loaded up his shotgun with nails and dynamite  
He waited and he waited for that cat to come around  
Ninety-seven pieces of that man is all they found

### Chorus

Gave it to a boy with a ten-dollar note  
Said take it on the river take it out in a boat  
He tied a rope around its neck it must've weighed a pound  
Last week they dragged the river for the little boy had drowned

### Chorus

He took it to the butcher shop when the butcher wasn't around  
He put it in the grinder where all the meat was ground  
The grinder let out with a wail and shriek  
The whole town's meat was furry for a week

### Chorus:

The H-bomb fell the very next day  
The A-bomb fell in the very same way  
France went, Russia went, Spain went, and finally, the good old USA  
The whole world was demolished, blown to smithereens that day

This folksong has many other verses that were not sung at camp. Over time, some of the original lyrics changed as the song became part of the folksong tradition. The lyrics recorded here reflect how the song is sung at camp.

