

ERNIE (THE FASTEST MILKMAN IN THE WEST)

Bennie Hill

SPA STRUMMERS

arranged by David Jenkins 16/06/2012 v1

Backing singers in red (Strum to medium horse gallop rhythm)

(INTRO 2 LINES AS CHORUS) [C] ([Am] [F] [G] [C])

You could [C]hear the hoof beats pound as they raced across the ground,
[Am] And the clatter of the wheels as they went 'round and 'round.
He [F] galloped into Market Street, his badge upon his chest,
His name was [G] Ernie & he drove the fastest milk cart in the [C] West.

Now [C] Ernie loved a widow, a lady known as Sue,
She lived [Am] all alone in Lindley Lane at number 22.
They [F] said she was too good for him, she was haughty, proud and chic,
But [G] Ernie got his cocoa there three times every [C] week.

They called him [C] Ernie, ([Am] **(Ernie)**)
And he [F] drove the fastest [G] milk cart in the [C] West.

She [C] said she'd like to bathe in milk, he said, "All right, sweetheart,"
And [Am] when he'd finished work that night he loaded up the cart.
He [F] said, "D'you want it pasteurized? 'Cause pasteurized is best,"
[G] "Ernie, I'll be happy if it comes up to my [C] chest."

That tickled old [C] Ernie, ([Am] **(Ernie)**)
And he [F] drove the fastest [G] milk cart in the [C] West.

Now [C] Ernie had a rival, an evil-looking man,
Called [Am] Two-Ton Ted from Teddington and he drove the baker's van.
He [F] tempted her with his treacle tarts and his tasty wholemeal bread,
And when she [G] seen the size of his hot meat pies it very near turned
her [C] head.
She [C] almost swooned at his macaroons & he said, "If you treat me
right,
You'll have [Am] hot rolls every morning and crumpets every night."
He [F] knew once she'd sampled his layer cake he'd have his wicked way,
And all [G] Ernie had to offer was a pint of milk a [C] day.

Poor [C] Ernie, [Am] **(Ernie)**,
And he [F] drove the fastest [G] milk cart in the [C] West.

One [C] lunch time Ted saw Ernie's horse and cart outside her door,
It [Am] drove him mad to see it was still there at half past four.
He [F] leapt down from his van, hot blood through his veins did course,
And he [G] went across to Ernie's cart and didn't half kick his [C] 'orse.

Whose name was [C] Trigger, [Am] (Trigger),
And he [F] pulled the fastest [G] milk cart in the [C] West.

Now [C] Ernie ran out into the street, his gold top in his hand,
He [Am] said, "If you wanna marry Sue you'll fight for her like a man."
"Oh [F] why don't we play cards for her?" Ted sneeringly replied,
"And [G] just to make it interesting we'll have a shilling on the [C] side."

Now [C] Ernie dragged him from his van and beneath the blazing sun,
They [Am] stood there face to face, and Ted went for his bun.
But [F] Ernie was too quick for him, things didn't go the way Ted planned,
And a [G] strawberry-flavoured yogurt sent it spinning from his [C] hand.

Now [C] Sue, she came between them and tried to keep them apart,
But a [Am] rock cake caught old Ernie underneath his heart.
As he [F] looked up in pained surprise, the concrete hardened crust
Of a [G] stale pork pie caught him in the eye and Ernie bit the [C] dust.

Poor [C] Ernie, [Am] (Ernie),
And he [F] drove the fastest [G] milk cart in the [C] West.

(SLOW) – (uke dither) (backing singers – ooo..ooo.oooo.oooo etc)
[C] Ernie was only 52, he didn't wanna die,
Now he's [Am] gone to make deliveries in that milk round in the sky.
Where the [F] customers are angels and ferocious dogs are banned,
And a [G] milkman's life is full of fun in that fairy, dairy [C] land.

(SLOW. DOWN STRUMS ONLY)...

But a [C] woman's needs are many fold and Sue, she married Ted,
But [Am] strange things happened on their wedding night as they lay in
their bed.

Was [F] that the leaves a rustling? Or the creaking of the gate?
Or [G] Ernie's ghostly gold tops a-rattling in their [C] crate?

(FASTER STRUM....)

They won't forget [C] Ernie, [Am] (Ernie),
And he [F] drove the fastest [G] milk cart in the [C] West. C C C