

Nurse's Song (Songs of Innocence) Key Facts

Writer: William Blake | Generated: Jan 26, 2026

Title: Nurse's Song

Author: William Blake

Publication: In Blake's collection, *Songs of Innocence*, in 1789

Form: Four four-line stanzas

Rhyme Scheme: Each stanza follows the ABCB rhyme scheme, meaning lines 2 and 4 rhyme together.

Symbols:

- Birds - Freedom
- Sheep - Innocence

Important Note:

In this poem, nurse means nannay (who takes care of the children). In "Nurse's Song" from *Songs of Innocence*

, the nurse is a kind person. She feels happy and peaceful as she sees children play and laugh. Through this kind nurse, Blake depicts a world that gives importance to the innocence, freedom, and happiness of childhood. The poet suggests children should grow up with freedom and happiness. In "Nurse's Song" from "Songs of Experience" (1794), Blake depicts a dark world. In that poem, the nurse describes children's play as a waste of time.