

# Off By Heart

AA MILNE - The King's Breakfast

The King asked  
The Queen, and  
The Queen asked  
The Dairymaid:  
'Could we have some butter for  
The Royal slice of bread?'  
The Queen asked  
The Dairymaid,  
The Dairymaid  
Said, 'Certainly,  
I'll go and tell the cow  
Now  
Before she goes to bed.'

The Dairymaid  
She curtsied,  
And went and told  
The Alderney:  
'Don't forget the butter for  
The Royal slice of bread.'  
The Alderney  
Said sleepily:  
'You'd better tell  
His Majesty  
That many people nowadays  
Like marmalade  
Instead.'

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The Dairymaid  
Said, 'Fancy!'  
And went to  
Her Majesty.  
She curtsied to the Queen, and  
She turned a little red:  
'Excuse me,  
Your Majesty,  
For taking of  
The liberty,  
But marmalade is tasty, if  
It's very  
Thickly  
Spread.'

The Queen said  
'Oh!'  
And went to  
His Majesty:  
'Talking of the butter for  
The Royal slice of bread,  
Many people  
Think that  
Marmalade  
Is nicer.  
Would you like to try a little  
Marmalade  
Instead?'

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The King said,  
'Bother!'  
And then he said,  
'Oh, deary me!'  
The King sobbed, 'Oh, deary me!'  
And went back to bed.  
'Nobody,'  
He whimpered,  
'Could call me  
A fussy man;  
I only want  
A little bit  
Of butter for  
My bread!'

The Queen said,  
'There, there!'  
And went to  
The Dairymaid.  
The Dairymaid  
Said, 'There, there!'  
And went to the shed.  
The cow said,  
'There, there!  
I didn't really  
Mean it;  
Here's milk for his porringer,  
And butter for his bread.'

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The Queen took  
The butter  
And brought it to  
His Majesty;  
The King said,  
'Butter, eh?'  
And bounced out of bed.  
'Nobody,' he said,  
As he kissed her  
Tenderly,  
'Nobody,' he said,  
As he slid down  
The banisters,  
'Nobody,  
My darling,  
Could call me  
A fussy man—  
BUT  
I do like a little bit of butter to my bread!'