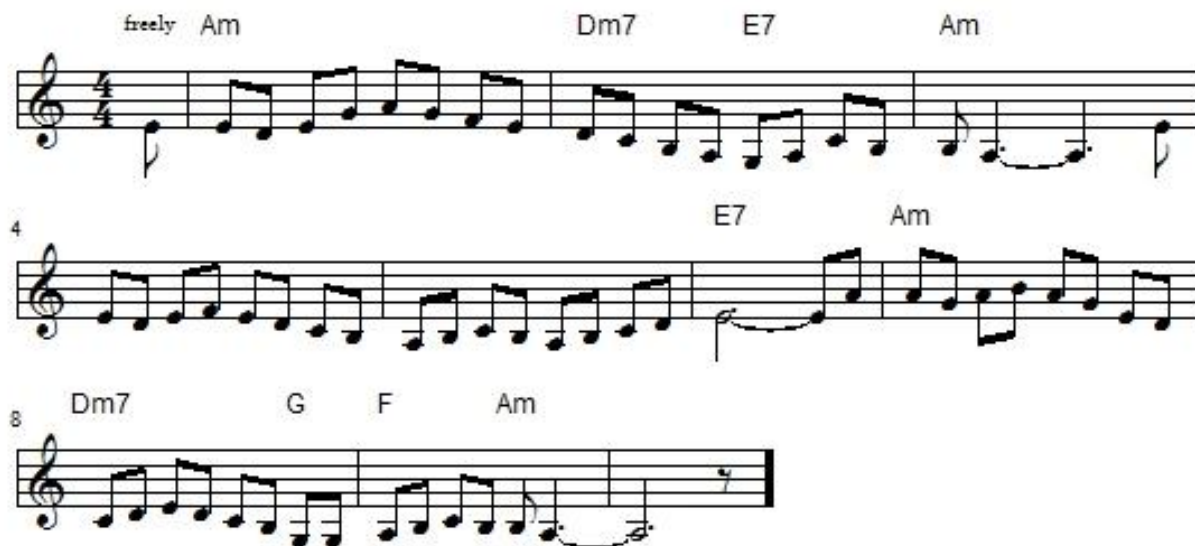


The January Man

Dave Goulder



1. The January man, he walks the road
in woolen coat and boots of leather.
The February man still wipes the snow
from off his hair and blows his hands.
The man of March he sees the Spring
and wonders what the year will bring
And hopes for better weather.
2. Through April rain the man goes down
to watch the birds come in to share the
summer.
The man of May stands very still
watching the children dance away the day.
In June the man inside the man
is young and wants to lend a hand
And grins at each newcomer.
3. And in July the man in cotton shirt,
he sits and thinks on being idle.
The August man in thousands takes the road
to watch the sea and find the sun.
September man is standing near
to saddle up and leave the year
And Autumn is his bridle.
4. And the man of new October takes the reins
and early frost is on his shoulder.
The poor November man sees fire
and wind and mist and rain and Winter air.
December man looks through the snow
to let eleven brothers know
They're all a little older.
5. And the January man comes round again
in woolen coat and boots of leather
To take another turn and walk along
the icy road he knows so well.
The January man is here
for starting each and every year
Along the way for ever.

"The January Man" is a song by Scottish songwriter David Coulder. Goulder lives in Sutherland in the Scottish Highlands with his wife Mary.

The song personifies each month of the year. Some singers like to sing this at New Years.

The tune has been recorded with and without accompaniment. It is particularly effective when sung *a cappella*. The song should flow slowly and freely to follow the words and any accompaniment should not be strictly rhythmic.

It has been recorded by Dave Goulder, Martin Carthy, Christy Moore, Tony Rose, Bert Jansch, Ed Trickett, William Pint & Felicia Dale and others.