

### The Potters

The tune, and first two lines, come from the Oxford Book of Carols, No.1, second tune. Please feel free to sing it, with proper attribution (i.e. tell people who wrote it).

1. The Lord at first did Adam make  
Out of the dust and clay,  
And in his nostrils breathèd life  
E'en as the scriptures say,  
So when you meet potters proud of their craft  
You should not think it odd:  
We are prenticed to the greatest Master of all  
For the very first potter was God.

Ch: For from the beginning of history  
Wherever humankind  
Makes things of beauty and of use  
The potters there you'll find.

2. How could you ever break your fast,  
How could you dine or sup,  
Or drink your coffee or your tea  
Without a plate or cup?  
And when at a banquet or a feast  
On the table flowers blaze,  
A gardener grew the blossoms fair  
But a potter made the vase. (Ch.)

3. In China and in ancient Greece,  
In Yucután as well,  
Scribes and artists worked on clay,  
Their nations tales to tell.

Now the archaeologist deciphers much  
Of long-ago people's lives  
From shards of broken pottery  
When nothing else survives. (Ch.)

4. Of clay we make our kitchen sinks,  
Of clay our bathroom tiles,  
Of clay we make our soup tureens  
In many colours and styles,  
And let's not forget the toilet bowl,  
Indeed, I must say this:  
I hope you'll never be too poor to have  
A pot in which to piss. (Ch.)

5. Of porcelain in former days  
The best false teeth were made  
With porcelain dolls dressed in finest silk  
ur great-grandmothers played.  
Now rockets use ceramic cones  
To come safely back to earth,  
And who knows to how many other things  
Our noble craft will give birth. (Ch.)