

12. The roku-dan song

Francis Roads

For Matthew Macfadyen

German traditional

F Chorus F B^b B^b C⁷ C⁷ F F

I'm a ro - ku - dan, and I'm all right, Play go all day and I sleep all night.

F F B^b B^b C⁷ C⁷ F F

He's a ro - ku-dan and he's all right, Plays go all day and he sleeps all night. FINE

Verse F F Gm Gm C⁷ C⁷ F

I'm learn - ed in jo - se - ki so I know just where to play,

F F F Gm Gm C⁷ C⁷ F

My bril - liance in byo yo - mi makes my game last all the day.

F F F Gm Gm C⁷ C⁷ F

He's learn - ed in - jo - se - ki so he knows just where to - play,

F F F Gm Gm C⁷ C⁷ F

His bril - liance in byo yo - mi makes his games last all the day.

Chorus:

I'm a roku-dan and I'm all right,
 Play go all day and I sleep all night.
*He's a roku-dan and he's all right,
 Plays go all day and he sleeps all night.*

Verses:

I'm learned in joseki,
 so I know just where to play.
 My brilliance in byo yomi
 makes my game last all the day.
*He's learned in joseki,
 so he know just where to play.
 His brilliance in byo yomi
 makes his game last all the day. (Chorus)*

*I know all my tesuji,
 so I'm never losing heart,
 And when I'm tired of playing go,
 I play a bit of skat.
*He knows all his tesuji,
 so he's never losing heart,
 And when he's tired of playing go,
 he plays a bit of skat. (Chorus)*

I play along the second line,
 and then I count the score.
 **If that's too few, I stroke my beard,
 and then I've nineteen more.
*He plays along the second line,
 and then he counts the score.
 If that's too few, he strokes his beard,
 and then he's nineteen more. (Chorus)*

My pocket's full of go stones,
 from oponents' eyes well hid,
 And if I find that I'm behind,
 I slip some in my lid.
*His pocket's full of go stones,
 from opponents' eyes well hid,
 And if he finds that he's behind,
 he slips some in his lid. (Chorus)*

If you wonder how I keep my grade,
 remember that the man
 Who runs the grading sub-committee
 is your roku-dan.
*If you wonder how he keeps his grade,
 remember that the man
 Who runs the grading sub-committee
 is your roku dan. (Chorus)*

Final chorus:

I'm a roku-dan and I'm OK,
 Play go all night, watch birds all day.
*He's a roku-dan and he's OK,
 Plays go all night, watches birds all day.*

* Original: "I know all my tesuji so I'm never in a mess,
 And when I'm tired of playing go, I play a bit of chess."

**Original: "If that's too few, I jerk the board, ..."

The version given here is as sung by Matthew Macfadyen. [Ed]