

Once I was Five Dan

Francis Roads

Lament of an ageing go player

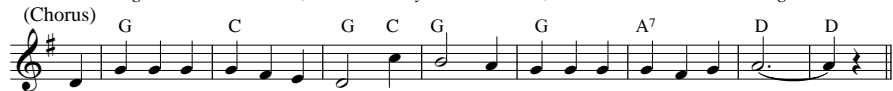
American. trad



1. Once I was five dan, O then, — Once I was five dan, O then, —
2. I went down to four dan, O then, — I went down to four dan, O then, —
3. I went down to three dan, O then, — I went down to three dan, O then, —
4. I went down to two dan, O then, — I went down to two dan, O then, —



When I was five dan all my troubles be-gan, and I'll ne-ver be five dan a -gain. —
My poor con cen tra - tion soon caused re - sig - na - tion, I'll ne-ver be four dan a -gain. —
 I'd start off O K, but mess up the yo - se, and I'll ne-ver be three dan a -gain. —
But each game I blun - dered, I'd lose by a hun dred, I'll ne-ver be two dan a -gain. —



(Chorus)

A - gain and a - gain and a - gain, good folks, A - gain and a - gain and a - gain, —



When I was five dan all my trou - bles be - gan, and I'll
My poor con - cen - tra - tion soon caused re - sig - na - tion, I'll
 I'd start off O K, but mess up the yo - se, and I'll
But each game I blun - dered, I'd lose by a hun - dred, I'll



ne - ver be five dan a - gain. —
ne - ver be four dan a - gain. —
 ne - ver be three dan a - gain.
ne - ver be two dan a - gain.

Verse 5:

I went down to shodan, O then,
 I went down to shodan, O then,
 However I tried ev'ry group I made died,
 And I'll never be shodan again.
 (Chorus)

Verse 6:

Young players with dan grades, O then,
 Young players with dan grades, O then,
 Enjoy being strong, for your strength won't last long,
 And you'll soon be a 1-kyu again.
 (Chorus)

Original text:

*Once I was single, O then, Once I was single O then
 When I was single my pockets did jingle
 And I wish I was single again.*

... followed by five more politically incorrect verses.