

Oh, Gentlemen, Listen, I Pray

The Defendant's song from the comic opera *Trial by Jury* (tenor)

Text by *Sir William Schwenck Gilbert* (1839-1911) [Br]

Set by *Sir Arthur Seymour Sullivan* (1842-1900) [Br]

Oh, gentlemen, listen, I pray,
[o:ʊ 'dʒɛn.təl.mən 'lɪs.ən a:I pre:i]

Tho' I own that my heart has been ranging,
[ðo:ʊ a:i o:ʊn ðæt ma:i hæʔ hæz bɪn 're:ɪn.dʒɪŋ]

Of nature the laws I obey,
For nature is constantly changing.

The moon in her phases is found,
The time and the wind and the weather,
The months in succession come round,
And you don't find two Mondays together.

Ah! consider the moral, I pray,
Nor bring a young fellow to sorrow,
Who loves this young lady today,
And loves that young lady tomorrow.

You cannot eat breakfast all day,
Nor is it the act of a sinner,
When breakfast is taken away,
To turn his attention to dinner;

And it's not in the range of belief,
To look upon him as a glutton,
Who, when he is tired of beef,
Determines to tackle the mutton...

The entire text to this title with the complete
IPA transcription is available for download.

Thank you!

