

Der Steiger - The miner

Is the traditional greeting of the miners. First it was used in the 16th century in the Ore Mountains and was written down by a miner from Zwickau. From there it spread all around the mining regions of Germany. The song is about a man holding a lamp for lightening the dark. He was the most important man under earth, checking the miner's work. The miners had such a lamp, too And worked in the low, glimmering light of the lamp.

1. The man named "Steiger" is a supervisor to the miners . Here he appeared and is announced by his light coming up out of the dark
2. The lamp is of great importance to the miners meaning not only a main working condition but marking the difference between day and night, life and death.
3. The lamp lets the miners do the job: digging silver and gold out of the mountain.

The verses are connected to each other: the last words of the former verse start the next.