

Let's Celebrate Christmas with Well-Loved Carols



NOTE:

6 Songs Added in 2012

Christmas Time Is Here

Go, Tell It On The Mountain

Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree

There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays

Toyland

'Twas the Night Before Christmas

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**This Collection of Well-Loved
Christmas Carol Lyrics
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The 12 Days of Christmas

On the 1st day of Christmas, my true love sent to me... A partridge in a pear tree.

On the 2nd day of Christmas, my true love sent to me... 2 turtle doves,
and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the 3rd day of Christmas, my true love sent to me... 3 French hens, 2 turtle doves,
and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the 4th day of Christmas, my true love sent to me... 4 calling birds, 3 French hens,
2 turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the 5th day of Christmas, my true love sent to me... 5 Golden Rings!
4 calling birds, 3 French hens, 2 turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the 6th day of Christmas, my true love sent to me... 6 geese a-laying...
Golden Rings! 4 calling birds, 3 French hens, 2 turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the 7th day of Christmas, my true love sent to me... 7 swans a-swimming,
6 geese a-laying... 5 Golden Rings!
4 calling birds, 3 French hens, 2 turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the 8th day of Christmas, my true love sent to me... 8 maids a-milking,
7 swans a-swimming, 6 geese a-laying... 5 Golden Rings!
4 calling birds, 3 French hens, 2 turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the 9th day of Christmas, my true love sent to me... 9 ladies dancing,
8 maids a-milking, 7 swans a-swimming, 6 geese a-laying... 5 Golden Rings!
4 calling birds, 3 French hens, 2 turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the 10th day of Christmas, my true love sent to me... 10 lords a-leaping,
9 ladies dancing, 8 maids a-milking, 7 swans a-swimming, 6 geese a-laying...
5 Golden Rings! 4 calling birds, 3 French hens, 2 turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the 11th day of Christmas, my true love sent to me... 11 pipers piping, 10 lords a-leaping,
9 ladies dancing, 8 maids a-milking, 7 swans a-swimming, 6 geese a-laying... 5 Golden Rings!
4 calling birds, 3 French hens, 2 turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the 12th day of Christmas, my true love sent to me... 12 drummers drumming,
11 pipers piping, 10 lords a-leaping, 9 ladies dancing, 8 maids a-milking,
7 swans a-swimming, 6 geese a-laying... 5 Golden Rings!
4 calling birds, 3 French hens, 2 turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree.

NOTE: The 12 Days of Christmas start with Christmas Day on December 25th and conclude with the Epiphany eve on 5th January.

All I Want For Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth

Every body pauses and stares at me
These two teeth are gone as you can see
I don't know just who to blame for this catastrophe!
But my one wish on Christmas Eve is as plain as it can be!

All I want for Christmas
is my two front teeth,
my two front teeth,
see my two front teeth!

Gee, if I could only
have my two front teeth,
then I could wish you
"Merry Christmas."
It seems so long since I could say,
"Sister Susie sitting on a thistle!"
Gosh oh gee, how happy I'd be,
if I could only whistle (thhhh, thhhh)

All I want for Christmas
is my two front teeth,
my two front teeth,
see my two front teeth.

Gee, if I could only
have my two front teeth,
then I could wish you
"Merry Christmas!"

NOTE: Don Gardner has penned the carol "All I Want For Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth" and it was first published in 1946. It has almost become a trend with every generation to introduce a new humorous Christmas song that is a parody of this song.

In the UK, a British comedienne named Dora Bryan recorded a parody on this song in sixties that said, "All I want for Christmas is a Beatle" and it was so funny that it became an instant hit.

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.

REFRAIN:

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?

REFRAIN

Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ Whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King

REFRAIN

See Him in a manger laid,
Whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
While our hearts in love we raise.

REFRAIN

NOTE: A translation of traditional French carol "Les Anges dans nos Campagnes," "Angels we have heard on high" first appeared in "Crown of Jesus" in 1862. James Chadwick translated it while Edwin S. Barnes gave music to it.

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me Lord Jesus,
I ask thee to stay.
Close by me forever,
And love me I pray.

Bless all the dear children,
In thy tender care.
And take them to heaven,
To be with thee there.

NOTE: First published in 1885 in a Lutheran Sunday school book, the author of "Away in a Manger" is unknown and its music was composed by William J. Kirkpatrick in 1895.

Carol of the Bells

Hark! how the bells
Sweet silver bells
All seem to say,
"Throw cares away."
Christmas is here
Bringing good cheer
To young and old
Meek and the bold

Ding, dong, ding, dong
That is their song
With joyful ring
All caroling
One seems to hear
Words of good cheer
From ev'rywhere
Filling the air

Oh how they pound,
Raising the sound,
O'er hill and dale,
Telling their tale,
Gaily they ring
While people sing
Songs of good cheer
Christmas is here
Merry, merry, merry, merry Christmas
Merry, merry, merry, merry Christmas

On, on they send
On without end
Their joyful tone
To ev'ry home

(repeat from the beginning)

Ding, dong, ding, dong.

NOTE: "The Carol of the Bells" lyrics were added to the original folk music from the Ukraine by Peter Wilhousky. The lyrics and words to this popular Christmas song celebrate the festive season and its traditions such as the pealing of church bells at Christmas and of the singing of Christmas Carols -- caroling. The original Ukrainian lyrics to the song was entitled Shchedryk meaning bountiful and were traditionally sang to celebrate the New Year.

The Christmas Song

Also Known as "Chestnuts Roasting On An Open Fire"

Chestnuts roasting on an open fire,
Jack Frost nipping on your nose,
Yuletide carols being sung by a choir,
And folks dressed up like Eskimos.

Everybody knows a turkey and some mistletoe,
Help to make the season bright.
Tiny tots with their eyes all aglow,
Will find it hard to sleep tonight.

They know that Santa's on his way;
He's loaded lots of toys and goodies on his sleigh.
And every mother's child is going to spy,
To see if reindeer really know how to fly.

And so I'm offering this simple phrase,
To kids from one to ninety-two,
Although its been said many times, many ways,
A very Merry Christmas to you!

NOTE: This Christmas song has strong imagery of traditional Christmas. It encompasses the spirit of family Christmas as emphasized by the line 'from kids from one to ninety-two.' Wells and Torme penned the song and composed its music in 1946. However, it gained popularity, when Nat King Cole recorded the song.

Christmas Time Is Here

From "A Charlie Brown Christmas" Soundtrack

Christmas time is here
Happiness and cheer
Fun for all that children call
Their favorite time of the year

Snowflakes in the air
Carols everywhere
Olden times and ancient rhymes
Of love and dreams to share

Sleigh bells in the air
Beauty everywhere
Yuletide by the fireside
And joyful memories there

Christmas time is here
We'll be drawing near
Oh, that we could always see
Such spirit through the year
Oh, that we could always see
Such spirit through the year...

NOTE: A Charlie Brown Christmas is an album by the Vince Guaraldi Trio, released in 1965 as the soundtrack to the CBS Christmas television special of the same name. It is among the most popular Christmas music albums of all time.

Deck The Halls

Deck the halls with boughs of holly,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.
'Tis the season to be jolly,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.

Don we now our gay apparel,
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.

See the blazing Yule before us,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.
Strike the harp and join the Chorus.
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.

Follow me in merry measure,
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.
While I tell of Yuletide treasure,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.

Fast away the old year passes,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.
Hail the new, ye lads and lasses,
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.

Sing we joyous, all together,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.
Heedless of the wind and weather,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.

NOTE: "Deck the Halls" is a traditional Yuletide and New Years' carol. The refrains of "fa-la-la" were probably originally played on the harp. In the eighteenth century Mozart used the tune to "Deck the Halls" for a violin and piano duet. The English words generally sung today are American in origin and date from the 19th century, but the original lyrics are Welsh.

Do You Hear What I Hear?

Said the night wind to the little lamb,
"Do you see what I see?
Way up in the sky, little lamb,
Do you see what I see?
A star, a star, dancing in the night
With a tail as big as a kite,
With a tail as big as a kite."

Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy,
"Do you hear what I hear?
Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy,
Do you hear what I hear?
A song, a song high above the trees
With a voice as big as the the sea,
With a voice as big as the the sea."

Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king,
"Do you know what I know?
In your palace warm, mighty king,
Do you know what I know?
A Child, a Child shivers in the cold--
Let us bring him silver and gold,
Let us bring him silver and gold."

Said the king to the people everywhere,
"Listen to what I say!
Pray for peace, people, everywhere,
Listen to what I say!
The Child, the Child sleeping in the night
He will bring us goodness and light,
He will bring us goodness and light."

NOTE: "Do You Hear What I Hear?" is a popular Christmas carol. Its lyrics are simple and its catchy tune makes it a favorite among adults and kids alike. It uses imagery from the nativity scene and describes how everyone and even the forces of Nature rejoiced at the birth of Jesus Christ.

The First Noel

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night

And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went

This star drew nigh to the northwest,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay

Then entered in those wise men three
Full reverently upon their knee,
And offered there in his presence
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,
And with his blood mankind hath bought

NOTE: "The First Noel" is believed to be English in origin in the sixteenth century. It was first published in 1833, in a collection of seasonal carols by William B. Sandys known as "Christmas Carols Ancient and Modern."

Frosty the Snowman

Frosty the Snowman, was a jolly happy soul,
With a corncob pipe, and a button nose, and two eyes made out of coal.

Frosty the Snowman, is a fairy tale, they say,
He was made of snow, but the children know,
how he came to life one day.

There must have been some magic, in that old silk hat they found.
For when they placed it on his head, he began to dance around.

O, Frosty the Snowman, was alive as he could be,
And the children say, he could laugh and play,
just the same as you and me.

Thumpetty thump thump, Thumpety thump thump, Look at Frosty go.
Thumpetty thump thump, Thumpety thump thump, Over the hills of snow.

Frosty the Snowman, knew the sun was hot that day,
So he said, "Let's run, and we'll have some fun, now before I melt away."

Down to the village, with a broomstick in his hand,
Running here and there, all around the square saying,
"Catch me if you can. "

He led them down the streets of town right to the traffic cop.
And he only paused a moment when, he heard him holler "Stop!"

For Frosty the Snowman, had to hurry on his way,
But he waved goodbye saying, "Don't you cry, I'll be back again some day."

Thumpetty thump thump, Thumpety thump thump, Look at Frosty go.
Thumpetty thump thump, Thumpety thump thump, Over the hills of snow.

NOTE: Inspired by the huge success of the single "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" recorded by Gene Autry, Steve 'Jack' Rollins and Steve Nelson wrote "Frosty the Snowman" in 1950. Rudolph had sold 2 million copies and Frosty went on to become another hit for Autry It was later adapted to other media too.

Go, Tell It On The Mountain

While shepherds kept their watching
Over silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens,
There shone a holy light:

REFRAIN:

Go, Tell It On The Mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, Tell It On The Mountain
That Jesus Christ is born.

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Saviour's birth:

REFRAIN

Down in a lowly manger
Our humble Christ was born
And God send us salvation,
That blessed Christmas morn:

REFRAIN

When I am a seeker,
I seek both night and day;
I seek the Lord to help me,
And He shows me the way:

REFRAIN

He made me a watchman
Upon the city wall,
And if I am a Christian,
I am the least of all.

REFRAIN

NOTE: "Go Tell It on the Mountain" is an African-American spiritual song, compiled by John Wesley Work, Jr., dating back to at least 1865, that has been sung and recorded by many gospel and secular performers. It is considered a Christmas carol because its original lyric celebrates the Nativity of Jesus.

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior, was born on Christmas day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r, when we were gone astray:

REFRAIN:

O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heavenly Father, a blessed angel came.
And unto certain shepherds, brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born, the Son of God by name:

REFRAIN

"Fear not," then said the angel, "Let nothing you affright,
This day is born a Savior, of virtue, power, and might;
So frequently to vanquish all, the friends of Satan quite":

REFRAIN

The shepherds at those tidings, rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding, in tempest, storm, and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway, this blessed babe to find:

REFRAIN

But when to Bethlehem they came, whereat this infant lay
They found him in a manger, where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling, unto the Lord did pray:

REFRAIN

Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood, each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas, all others doth deface:

REFRAIN

NOTE: "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen" is a traditional Christmas carol. The melody is in a minor key and is in common time or cut time. The composer is unknown; it is often attributed as English traditional.

Good King Wenceslas

Good King Wenceslas looked out, On the feast of Stephen,
When the snow lay round about, Deep and crisp and even.
Brightly shown the moon that night, Though the frost was cruel,
When a poor man came in sight, Gathering winter fuel.

Hither, page, and stand by me. If thou know it telling:
Yonder peasant, who is he? Where and what his dwelling?
Sire, he lives a good league hence, Underneath the mountain,
Right against the forest fence, By Saint Agnes fountain.

Bring me flesh, and bring me wine. Bring me pine logs hither.
Thou and I will see him dine, When we bear the thither.
Page and monarch, forth they went, Forth they went together
Through the rude wind's wild lament, And the bitter weather.

Sire, the night is darker now, And the wind blows stronger.
Fails my heart, I know not how. I can go no longer.
Ark my footsteps my good page, Tread thou in them boldly:
Thou shalt find the winter's rage, Freeze thy blood less coldly.

In his master's step he trod, Where the snow lay dented.
Heat was in the very sod, Which the saint had printed.
Therefore, Christian men, be sure, Wealth or rank possessing,
Ye who now will bless the poor, Shall yourselves find blessing.

NOTE: "Good King Wenceslas" was first published in 1853 and was penned by John Mason Neale. It emphasizes the virtues of generosity and kindness and is a Christmas favorite even though its lyrics mention St. Stephen's Day or Boxing Day, the day after Christmas. It is sung to a Latin spring carol tune that was first published in 1582.

Grandma Got Run Over By a Reindeer

CHORUS:

Grandma got run over by a reindeer
walkin' home from our house Christmas eve.
You can say there's no such thing as Santa.
But as for me and Grandpa, we believe.

She'd been drinkin' too much egg nog. And we'd begged her not to go.
But she'd forgot her medication, and she staggered out the door into the snow.

When we found her Christmas mornin,' at the scene of the attack.
She had hoof prints on her forehead, And incriminatin' Claus marks on her back.

CHORUS

Now were all so proud of Grandpa. He's been takin' this so well.
See him in there watchin' football, drinkin' beer and playin' cards with cousin Belle.

It's not Christmas without Grandma. All the family dressed in black.
And we just can't help but wonder: Should we open up her gifts or send them back?
(Send them back)

CHORUS

Now the goose is on the table. And the pudding made of fig.
And a blue and silver candle, that would just have matched the hair
in Grandma's wig.

I've warned all my friends and neighbors. "Better watch out for yourselves."
They should never give a license, to a man who drives a sleigh and plays with elves.

CHORUS

(Sing it Grandpa)

Hey!

CHORUS

but as for me and Grandpa we believe (x2)

NOTE: "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer" is a novelty Christmas song, which led to the creation of an animated movie with the same title. Written by Randy Brooks, the song was originally performed by the husband and wife duo of Elmo and Patsy Trigg Shropshire in 1979. By the early 1980s, the song was becoming a seasonal hit, first on country stations and then on Top 40 stations.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies
With the angelic host proclaim: "Christ is born in Bethlehem"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ by highest heav'n adored, Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

NOTE: The author of "Hark the herald angels sing," Charles Wesley was the brother of John Wesley, founder of the Methodist church in 1739. He was somber and requested slow and solemn music for his lyrics. More than a hundred years later, English musician William H. Cummings adapted Felix Mendelssohn's tune to commemorate Johann Gutenberg's printing press to fit the lyrics "Hark the herald angels sing" and since then, its music has changed.

Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas

Have yourself a merry little Christmas,
Let your heart be light
From now on,
our troubles will be out of sight

Have yourself a merry little Christmas,
Make the Yule-tide gay,
From now on,
our troubles will be miles away.

Here we are as in olden days,
Happy golden days of yore.
Faithful friends who are dear to us
Gather near to us once more.

Through the years
We all will be together,
If the Fates allow
Hang a shining star upon the highest bough.
And have yourself A merry little Christmas now.

NOTE: Judy Garland introduced this song in the 1944 MGM musical *Meet Me In St. Louis*. Frank Sinatra later recorded a version with modified lyrics, which has become more common than the original. The song was credited to Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane, although during a December 21, 2006 NPR interview, Martin said that Blane had encouraged him to write the song but had not had anything more to do with writing it.

Here Comes Santa Claus

Here comes Santa Claus!
Here comes Santa Claus!
Right down Santa Claus Lane!
Vixen and Blitzen and all his reindeer
are pulling on the reins.
Bells are ringing, children singing;
All is merry and bright.
Hang your stockings and say your prayers,
'Cause Santa Claus comes tonight.

Here comes Santa Claus!
Here comes Santa Claus!
Right down Santa Claus Lane!
He's got a bag that is filled with toys
for the boys and girls again.
Hear those sleigh bells jingle jangle,
What a beautiful sight.
Jump in bed, cover up your head,
'Cause Santa Claus comes tonight

NOTE: Gene Autry, Oakley Haldeman (c) 1947 - Gene was riding his horse, Champion, down Hollywood Boulevard for the annual Christmas parade in 1946 when, hearing the crowds of children gleefully crying, "Here comes Santa Claus!" he was inspired to write a song. It was the first Gene Autry Christmas release, a huge commercial and artistic triumph that opened the door to an unexpected extension of his phenomenal career.

The Holly and the Ivy

The holly and the ivy, When they are both full grown,
Of all trees that are in the wood, The holly bears the crown:

REFRAIN:

O, the rising of the sun, And the running of the deer
The playing of the merry organ, Sweet singing in the choir.

The holly bears a blossom, As white as lily flow'r,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, To be our dear Saviour.

REFRAIN

The holly bears a berry, As red as any blood,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, To do poor sinners good.

REFRAIN

The holly bears a prickle, As sharp as any thorn,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, On Christmas Day in the morn

REFRAIN

The holly bears a bark, As bitter as the gall,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, For to redeem us all.

REFRAIN

The holly and the ivy, When they are both full grown,
Of all trees that are in the wood, The holly bears the crown.

REFRAIN

NOTE: Dating back to almost 1000 years, "The Holly and the Ivy" is believed to have Pagan origins. Its author and composer are unknown but Cecil Sharp first published its modern version that we find today. It is a wonder how this carol survived for such long time especially during the strong protests and agitations against everything pagan during the 17th century. Both Holly and Ivy are hardy plants and can survive very difficult situations too. Thus, they are considered as symbols of hope and longevity and it is believed to bring good luck for the family if one takes them inside home during the winter. The colors of these plants, their green leaves, white flowers and red berries are all associated with Christmas for long.

A Holly Jolly Christmas

Have a holly, jolly Christmas;
It's the best time of the year
I don't know if there'll be snow,
but have a cup of cheer.

Have a holly, jolly Christmas;
And when you walk down the street
Say Hello to friends you know
and everyone you meet.

Oh, ho, the mistletoe
hung where you can see;
Somebody waits for you;
Kiss her once for me.

Have a holly jolly Christmas,
and in case you didn't hear,
Oh by golly, have a holly,
jolly Christmas this year.

NOTE: Johnny Marks (c) 1962 - "A Holly Jolly Christmas" remains a popular tune during the Christmas season; sung by Burl Ives, it was featured in the Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer special.

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old familiar carols play.
And wild and sweet the words repeat
Of Peace on earth, good will to men.

I thought how as the day had come
The belfries of all Christendom
Had roll'd along th' unbroken song
Of Peace on earth, good will to men.

And in despair, I bow'd my head:
"There is no peace on earth," I said,
"For hate is strong and mocks the song,
Of Peace on earth, good will to men."

Then from each black, accursed mouth
The cannon thundered in the South,
And with the sound the carols drowned
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

It was as if an earthquake rent
The hearthstones of a continent,
And made forlorn, the households born
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep;
"God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
With Peace on earth, good will to men."

NOTE: Henry W. Longfellow wrote the lyrics and it was first published in 1864. John B. Calkin composed its music in 1872 though it is also sung to an alternate tune that was originally composed by Joseph Mainzer in 1845. This hymn is full of despair, as it was written during the stressful times of American civil war. One can sense it clearly in the next-to-last stanza. Stanzas 4 and 5 mention the battle times and are hence, often omitted from hymnals.

I'll Be Home For Christmas

I'll be home for Christmas;

You can count on me.

Please have snow and mistletoe

And presents on the tree.

Christmas Eve will find me

Where the love-light gleams.

I'll be home for Christmas

If only in my dreams.

NOTE: Bing Crosby recorded 'I'll Be Home for Christmas' in 1943 and it instantly topped the charts as the one of America's most popular holiday songs along with 'White Christmas'. James 'Kim' Gannon wrote its lyrics while its music was composed by Walter Kent. It touched the hearts of the soldiers and civilians alike who were still going through World War II and made Crosby earn his fifth gold record.

In December 1965, when the astronauts Frank Borman and James Lovell were returning to Earth after setting a record for the longest flight in the US space program aboard Gemini 7 spacecraft, they requested this carol to be played for them.

I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus

I saw Mommy kissing Santa Claus

Underneath the mistletoe last night.

She didn't see me creep down the stairs to have a peep;

She thought that I was tucked

up in my bedroom fast asleep.

Then, I saw Mommy tickle Santa Claus

Underneath his beard so snowy white;

Oh, what a laugh it would have been

If Daddy had only seen

Mommy kissing Santa Claus last night.

NOTE: "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" is a Christmas song with music and lyrics by Tommie Connor. The original recording by Jimmy Boyd reached #1 on the Billboard charts in 1952, and on the Cash Box magazine chart at the beginning of the following year.

I Saw Three Ships

I saw three ships come sailing in, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
I saw three ships come sailing in, On Christmas Day in the morning.

And what was in those ships all three, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day?
And what was in those ships all three, On Christmas Day in the morning?

The Virgin Mary and Christ were there, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
The Virgin Mary and Christ were there, On Christmas Day in the morning.

Pray, wither sailed those ships all three, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
Pray, wither sailed those ships all three, On Christmas Day in the morning?

O they sailed into Bethlehem, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
O they sailed into Bethlehem, On Christmas Day in the morning.

And all the bells on earth shall ring, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
And all the bells on earth shall ring, On Christmas Day in the morning.

And all the Angels in Heaven shall sing, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
And all the Angels in Heaven shall sing, On Christmas Day in the morning.

And all the souls on earth shall sing, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
And all the souls on earth shall sing, On Christmas Day in the morning.

Then let us all rejoice again, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
Then let us all rejoice again, On Christmas Day in the morning.

NOTE: The origin, author and composer of the carol "I Saw Three Ships" are unknown but the imagery of three ships is considered to be positive, optimistic and sign of good luck. Some experts place this carol in England from the Victorian era. The repetitive chorus lines make it more melodious to listen and easy to remember.

It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth, To touch their harps of gold!
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, From heaven's all gracious King!
The world in solemn stillness lay, To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, With peaceful wings unfurled
And still their heavenly music floats, O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains, They bend on hovering wing.
And ever o'er its Babel sounds, The blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife, The world hath suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled, Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not, The love song which they bring:
O hush the noise, ye men of strife, And hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on, By prophet bards foretold,
When, with the ever-circling years, Shall come the Age of Gold;
When peace shall over all the earth, Its ancient splendors fling,
And all the world give back the song, Which now the angels sing.

NOTE: Written by Edmund Hamilton Sears (1810-1876) who was also the pastor of the Unitarian Church in Wayland, Massachusetts. The lyrics of the said carol appeared on the Christian Register in 1849. Ten years later, Richard Storrs Willis, an American composer/musician, created the melody for "It Came Upon A Midnight Clear."

It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas
Ev'rywhere you go;
Take a look in the five-and-ten, glistening once again
With candy canes and silver lanes aglow.

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas,
Toys in ev'ry store,
But the prettiest sight to see is the holly that will be
On your own front door.

A pair of hop-along boots and a pistol that shoots
Is the wish of Barney and Ben;
Dolls that will talk and will go for a walk
Is the hope of Janice and Jen;
And Mom and Dad can hardly wait for school to start again.

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas
Ev'rywhere you go;
There's a tree in the Grand Hotel, one in the park as well,
The sturdy kind that doesn't mind the snow.

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas;
Soon the bells will start,
And the thing that will make them ring is the carol that you sing
Right within your heart.

NOTE: "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas" is a classic Christmas song written in 1951 by Meredith Willson while staying at the Grand Hotel, in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. The song makes reference to a "tree in the Grand Hotel, one in the park as well..." -- the park being Frost Park, directly across the road from the hotel still located in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year

It's the most wonderful time of the year.

With the kids jingle belling,

and everyone telling you,

"Be of good cheer,"

It's the most wonderful time of the year.

There'll be parties for hosting,

marshmallows for toasting and

caroling out in the snow.

there'll be scary ghost stories and

tales of the glories of Christmases

long, long ago.

It's the most wonderful time of the year.

There'll be much mistletoeing

and hearts will be glowing,

when loved ones are near.

It's the most wonderful time of the year.

NOTE: This is a popular Christmas song written in 1963 by Edward Pola and George Wyle. It was recorded and released that year by pop singer Andy Williams for his first Christmas album, The Andy Williams Christmas Album. However, the song was not released as a promotional single by Williams's record label (Columbia Records) that year, as they instead opted to promote his cover of "White Christmas" as the official promo single from the album. The original version of "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year" by Andy Williams has since become a radio airplay standard, attaining more and more popularity with each passing holiday season since the song's original release.

In 1986, another popular version was released by Johnny Mathis on his fourth holiday album, Christmas Eve with Johnny Mathis..

Jingle Bell Rock

Jingle bell, jingle bell, jingle bell rock
Jingle bells swing and jingle bells ring
Snowing and blowing up bushels of fun
Now the jingle hop has begun.

Jingle bell, jingle bell, jingle bell rock
Jingle bells chime in jingle bell time
Dancing and prancing in Jingle Bell Square
In the frosty air.

What a bright time, it's the right time
To rock the night away
Jingle bell time is a swell time
To go gliding in a one-horse sleigh
Giddy-up jingle horse, pick up your feet
Jingle around the clock
Mix and a-mingle in the jingling feet
That's the jingle bell,
That's the jingle bell,
That's the jingle bell rock.

NOTE: "Jingle Bell Rock" was written by Joe Beal & Jim Boothe. It has gone on to sell 100 million copies. It was first released by Bobby Helms in 1957 and has received frequent airplay during every Christmas time since then. It has been performed by many, but Helms' version is the best-known. Its title and some of its lyrics are takeoffs on the old Christmas standard, "Jingle Bells." It also makes brief references to other popular songs of the 1950s, such as "Rock Around the Clock," and mentions going to a "Jingle Hop."

Jingle Bells

Dashing through the snow, in a one-horse open sleigh,
Over the fields we go, laughing all the way.
Bells on bob-tails ring, making spirits bright,
What fun it is to ride and sing a sleighing song tonight.

REFRAIN:

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way!
O what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh.
Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way!
O what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh.

A day or two ago, I thought I'd take a ride
And soon Miss Fanny Bright, was seated by my side;
The horse was lean and lank, misfortune seemed his lot;
He got into a drifted bank and we got upstot

REFRAIN

A day or two ago, the story I must tell
I went out on the snow, and on my back I fell;
A gent was riding by, in a one-horse open sleigh
He laughed as there I sprawling lie but quickly drove away

REFRAIN

Now the ground is white, go it while you're young
Take the girls tonight, and sing this sleighing song;
Just get a bob-tailed bay, two-forty as his speed
Hitch him to an open sleigh and crack! you'll take the lead

REFRAIN

NOTE: One of the most famous American Christmas songs, "Jingle Bells," was originally written by a minister called James Pierpoint for Thanksgiving in 1857 for the children of his Boston Sunday School. Later, it came to be associated with Christmas and the jingling bells became synonymous with the arrival of Father Christmas or Santa Claus!

Jolly Old Saint Nicholas

Jolly old Saint Nicholas,
lean your ear this way!
Don't you tell a single soul
what I'm going to say:
Christmas Eve is coming soon;
now, you dear old man
Whisper what you'll bring to me;
tell me if you can.

When the clock is striking twelve,
when I'm fast asleep
Down the chimney, broad and black,
with your pack you'll creep
All the stockings you will find
hanging in a row
Mine will be the shortest one,
you'll be sure to know

Bobby wants a pair of skates,
Suzy wants a sled
Nellie wants a picture book,
yellow, blue, and red
Now I think I'll leave to you
what to give the rest
Choose for me, dear Santa Claus;
you will know the best.

NOTE: "Jolly Old St. Nicholas" is often credited to Wilf Carter. According to the myth, Saint Nicholas is the patron saint of children, sailors, and pawn brokers. As a patron saint, Saint Nicholas became legendary for being a person who found joy in giving gifts, especially to children. Many years ago, he became associated with Christmas, every year, each country in Europe would celebrate St. Nicholas Day in a unique way.

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns;
Let men their songs employ;
while fields and floods,
rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessing flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of His righteousness,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders, wonders of His love.

NOTE: Penned by Isaac Watts in 1719, "Joy to the World" is an old Christmas carol. Isaac attended Nonconformist Academy at Stoke Newington and was was ordained as a Pastor of an Independent congregation. He wrote many hymns and carols. In 1728, the University of Edinburgh awarded him the degree of the Doctor of Divinity. The music to this carol was composed by George Frederick Handel.

Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow

Oh the weather outside is frightful,
But the fire is so delightful,
And since we've no place to go,
Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!

It doesn't show signs of Pausing,
And I've bought some corn for popping,
The lights are turned way down low,
Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!

When we finally kiss goodnight,
How I'll hate going out in the storm!
But if you'll really hold me tight,
All the way home I'll be warm.

The fire is slowly dying,
And, my dear, we're still good-bying,
But as long as you love me so,
Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!

NOTE: "Let It Snow!" is a song written by lyricist Sammy Cahn and composer Jule Styne in 1945. It was first recorded by Vaughn Monroe, became a huge popular hit, reaching #1 on the Billboard music chart the following year. The words and lyrics reflect the feeling of warmth and security associated with Christmas and also brings in the more modern customs of popping corn! Due to its seasonal lyrics, "Let It Snow!" is commonly regarded as a Christmas song -- yet, despite its cheery, holiday feel, it is a love song that never mentions Christmas.

The Little Drummer Boy

Come they told me, pa rum pum pum pum
A new born King to see, pa rum pum pum pum
Our finest gifts we bring, pa rum pum pum pum
To lay before the King, pa rum pum pum pum,
rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum,

So to honor Him, pa rum pum pum pum,
When we come.

Little Baby, pa rum pum pum pum
I am a poor boy too, pa rum pum pum pum
I have no gift to bring, pa rum pum pum pum
That's fit to give the King, pa rum pum pum pum,
rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum,

Shall I play for you, pa rum pum pum pum,
On my drum?

Mary nodded, pa rum pum pum pum
The ox and lamb kept time, pa rum pum pum pum
I played my drum for Him, pa rum pum pum pum
I played my best for Him, pa rum pum pum pum,
rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum,

Then He smiled at me, pa rum pum pum pum
Me and my drum.

NOTE: Penned and composed by Katherine K. Davis, Henry Onorati and Harry Simeone, the Christmas song "Little Drummer Boy" was first recorded in 1958. It became a smash hit again and again for various artists but the best one was perhaps the rendition of Bing Crosby and David Bowie. The words 'rum pum pum pum' were repeated about 21 times in this song.

O Christmas Tree

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,
How steadfast are your branches!
Your boughs are green in summer's clime
And through the snows of wintertime.
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,
How steadfast are your branches!

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,
What happiness befalls me
When oft at joyous Christmas-time
Your form inspires my song and rhyme.
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,
What happiness befalls me

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,
Your boughs can teach a lesson
That constant faith and hope sublime
Lend strength and comfort through all time.
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,
Your boughs can teach a lesson

NOTE: "Oh Christmas Tree" has its own origins (like "Silent Night") from the German pre-Christian tradition where it is well known as "O Tannenbaum." There are many legends about the first Christmas tree. One of these tells about a woodcutter who helps a small hungry child. The next morning, the child appears to the woodcutter and his wife, and is none other than the Christ child. The child breaks a branch from a fir tree and tells the couple that it will be a tree that, at this time, will bear fruit. As foretold the tree is laden with apples of gold and nuts of silver.

Oh Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, Born the King of angels;

REFRAIN:

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O Come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God, In the highest

REFRAIN

See how the shepherds, Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
We too will thither, Bend our joyful footsteps

REFRAIN

Child, for us sinners, Poor and in the manger,
We would embrace thee, with love and awe;
Who would not love thee, Loving us so dearly?

REFRAIN

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing

REFRAIN

NOTE: Written originally in Latin, "O Come All Ye Faithful," it was penned as a hymn by an Englishman called John Wade. In Latin, it is known as "Adeste Fideles." Another Englishman called John Reading composed its music in early 1700s, which was first published in "Cantus Diversi" in 1751. Rev. Frederick Oakley translated it to English in 1841.

Oh Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth, The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years, Are met in thee to-night.

For Christ is born of Mary, And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep, Their watch of wondering love.

O morning stars, together, Proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently, The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts, The blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still... The dear Christ enters in.

Where children pure and happy, Pray to the blessed Child,
Where misery cries out to thee, Son of the mother mild;
Where charity stands watching, And faith holds wide the door,
The dark night wakes, the glory breaks, And Christmas comes once more.

O holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, Be born in us to-day.
We hear the Christmas angels, The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!

NOTE: "Oh Little Town Of Bethlehem" was penned by a priest called Philip Brooks. He was inspired and overwhelmed by his visit to the town of Bethlehem in 1865. He wrote the song three years later for his church. The organist of his church, known as Lewis Redner, composed its music.

Oh Holy Night

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
'Til He appear'd and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees! O, hear the angels' voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born;
O night divine, O night, O night Divine.

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here come the wise men from Orient land.
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger;
In all our trials born to be our friend.
He knows our need, to our weakness is no stranger,
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King, Behold your King.

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother;
And in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy name.
Christ is the Lord! O praise His Name forever,
His power and glory evermore proclaim.
His power and glory evermore proclaim.

NOTE: "O Holy Night" is a well-known Christmas carol composed by Adolphe Adam in 1847 to the French poem "Minuit, chrétiens" by Placide Cappeau (1808-1877), a wine merchant and poet. Cappeau was asked to write a Christmas poem by a parish priest. It has become a standard modern carol for solo performance with an operatic finish.

Over the River and Through the Woods

Over the river and through the woods
To Grandmother's house we go.
The horse knows the way to carry the sleigh
Through white and drifted snow.

Over the river and through the woods,
Oh, how the wind does blow.
It stings the toes and bites the nose
As over the ground we go.

Over the river and through the woods
To have a full day of play.
Oh, hear the bells ringing ting-a-ling-ling,
For it is Christmas Day.

Over the river and through the woods,
Trot fast my dapple gray;
Spring o'er the ground just like a hound,
For this is Christmas Day.

Over the river and through the woods
And straight through the barnyard gate.
It seems that we go so dreadfully slow;
It is so hard to wait.

Over the river and through the woods,
Now Grandma's cap I spy.
Hurrah for fun; the pudding's done;
Hurrah for the pumpkin pie.

NOTE: "Over the River and Through the Woods" is a song written in 1844 by Lydia Maria Child, a novelist, journalist, and teacher. She also wrote extensively about the need to eliminate slavery. It celebrates her childhood memories of visiting her Grandfather's house. It is sometimes altered with lines about Christmas, rather than Thanksgiving.

Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree

Rockin' around the Christmas tree
At the Christmas party hop
Mistletoe hung where you can see
Every couple tries to stop

Rockin' around the Christmas tree
Let the Christmas spirit ring
Later we'll have some pumpkin pie
And we'll do some caroling

You will get a sentimental feelin' when you hear
Voices singing let's be jolly
Deck the halls with boughs of holly

Rockin' around the Christmas tree
Have a happy holiday
Everyone's dancing merrily
In the new old fashioned way

Rockin' around the Christmas tree
Let the Christmas spirit ring
Later we'll have some pumpkin pie
And we'll do some caroling

You will get a sentimental feelin' when you hear
Voices singing let's be jolly
Deck the halls with boughs of holly

Rockin' around the Christmas tree
Have a happy holiday
Everyone's dancing merrily

NOTE: "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" was written by Johnny Marks and originally recorded by Brenda Lee in 1958 on the Decca record label. For decades, Brenda Lee's recording was the only notable version of the song. Radio stations ranging from Top 40 to Adult Contemporary to Country Music to Oldies to even Adult Standards played this version. Lee's recording still receives a great deal of airplay, and has since turned into a perennial holiday favorite.

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer

Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer
had a very shiny nose.
And if you ever saw him,
you would even say it glows.

All of the other reindeer
used to laugh and call him names.
They never let poor Rudolph
join in any reindeer games.

Then one foggy Christmas Eve
Santa came to say:
"Rudolph with your nose so bright,
won't you guide my sleigh tonight?"

Then all the reindeer loved him
as they shouted out with glee,
Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer,
you'll go down in history!

NOTE: "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" was penned by an American advertising executive called Robert May as a marketing ploy appealing to children. The poem was intended to be given to children by the Santa Claus employed by Department Stores at Christmas.

It became so popular that approximately 2.5 million poems were given away in the first year of its publication! Its music was composed in 1949 by Johnny Marks and it was recorded first by the singer Gene Autry.

Santa Claus Is Coming to Town

You better watch out
You better not cry
Better not pout
I'm telling you why
Santa Claus is coming to town

He's making a list
And checking it twice;
Gonna find out
Who's naughty and nice
Santa Claus is coming to town

He sees you when you're sleeping
He knows when you're awake
He knows if you've been bad or good
So be good for goodness sake!

O! You better watch out!
You better not cry
Better not pout
I'm telling you why
Santa Claus is coming to town
Santa Claus is coming to town

NOTE: "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town" was written by J. Fred Coots and Haven Gillespie, and was first sung on Eddie Cantor's radio show in November 1934. It became an instant hit with orders for 100,000 copies of sheet music the next day and over 400,000 copies sold by Christmas.

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace.
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavely hosts sing alleluia;
Christ the Saviour, is born!
Christ the Saviour, is born!

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

NOTE: "Silent Night" was originally penned as a poem by an Austrian priest called Joseph Mohr in 1816. In 1818, on Christmas Eve in 1818, the organ at St. Nicholas Church in the small alpine village called Oberndorf had broken. It was at that time, a friend of Joseph Mohr, Franz Xavier Gruber composed the melody of the poem in mind and it was intended for a guitar.

Since the simple score was finished in time for Midnight Mass, it was sung there and then and eventually became the most famous Christmas carol!

Silver Bells

Christmas makes you feel emotional
It may bring parties or thoughts devotional
Whatever happens or what may be,
Here is what Christmas time means to me....

City sidewalk, busy sidewalks, dressed in holiday style.
In the air there's a feeling of Christmas.

Children laughing, people passing, meeting smile after smile,
And on every street corner you'll hear:

Silver bells, silver bells,
It's Christmas time in the city.
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring,
soon it will be Christmas day.

City street lights, even stop lights, blink a bright red and green,
As the shoppers rush home, with their treasures.

Hear the snow crunch, see the kids bunch, this is Santa's big scene,
And above all this bustle you'll hear:

Silver bells, silver bells,
It's Christmas time in the city.
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring,
soon it will be Christmas day.

NOTE: "Silver Bells" is a classic Christmas song, composed by Jay Livingston and Ray Evans. It was introduced by Bob Hope and Marilyn Maxwell in a motion picture called *The Lemon Drop Kid* in 1951. The first recorded version was by Bing Crosby and Carol Richards in 1952, which also became a hit in late 1952. The lyrics are unusual for a Christmas song in that they describe the holiday in the city, and not a rural setting.

Sleigh Ride

Just hear those sleigh bells jingling, ring-ting-tingling, too
Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you!
Outside the snow is falling and friends are calling, "Yoo hoo,"
Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you.

Giddy yap, giddy yap, giddy yap, let's go, let's look at the show,
We're riding in a wonderland of snow.
Giddy yap, giddy yap, giddy yap, it's grand, just holding your hand,
We're gliding along with a song of a wintry fairy land.

Our cheeks are nice and rosy and comfy cozy are we.
We're snuggled up together like two birds of a feather would be.
Let's take that road before us and sing a chorus or two.
Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you.

There's a birthday party at the home of Farmer Gray
It'll be the perfect ending a perfect day.
We'll be singing the songs we love to sing without a single stop,
At the fireplace while we watch the chestnuts pop... Pop! pop! pop!

There's a happy feeling nothing in the world can buy,
When they pass around the chocolate and the pumpkin pie.
It'll nearly be like a picture print by Currier and Ives.
These wonderful things are the things we remember all through our lives!

Just hear those sleigh bells jingling, ring-ting-tingling, too
Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you!
Outside the snow is falling and friends are calling, "Yoo hoo,"
Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you.

It's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you...
It's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you!

NOTE: "Sleigh Ride" is a popular song usually associated with Christmas. It was originally written as an instrumental piece in 1946 by Leroy Anderson, who intended it to refer to any winter event, not specifically Christmas. Mitchell Parish added words later, as he did for several of Anderson's compositions. It is one of Anderson's best-known songs, and a holiday standard.

There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays

Oh! There's no place like home for the holidays,
'Cause no matter how far away you roam,
When you pine for the sunshine of a friendly gaze,
For the holidays you can't beat home sweet home!

I met a man who lives in Tennessee, he was heading for,
Pennsylvania and some homemade pumpkin pie!
From Pennsylvania folks are travellin'
Down the Dixie sunny shore,
From Atlantic to Pacific,
Gee the traffic is terrific!

Oh! There's no place like home for the holidays,
'Cause no matter how far away you roam,
If you wanna be happy in a million ways,
For the holidays you can't beat home sweet home!

Take a bus, take a train, go and hop an aeroplane,
Put the wife an' kiddies in the family car!
For the pleasure that you bring when you make that doorbell ring,
No trip could be too far!

I met a man who lives in Tennessee, he was headin' for,
Pennsylvania and some homemade pumpkin pie!
(Some homemade pumpkin pie!)
From Pennsylvania folks are travellin'
Down the Dixie sunny shore,
From Atlantic to Pacific,
Gee the traffic is terrific!

Oh! There's no place like home for the holidays,
'Cause no matter how far away you roam,
If you wanna be happy in a million ways,
For the holidays you can't beat home sweet home!

For the holidays you can't beat home sweet home!

NOTE: The music was written by Robert Allen, the lyrics by Al Stillman. The song was published in 1954. The best-known recordings were made by Perry Como, who recorded the song twice.

Toyland

Toyland, Toyland
Little girl and boy land
While you dwell within it
You are ever happy there!

Childhood Joyland
Mystical merry Toyland
Once you pass its borders
You can never return again!

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Toyland, Toyland
Toyland, Toyland

NOTE: From the operetta "Babes in Toyland" in 1903, words by Glenn MacDonough and music by Victor Herbert. The song "Toyland" casts a nostalgic, almost hypnotic spell with its swaying innocent rhythm.

'Twas the Night Before Christmas

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that Saint Nicholas soon would be there.

The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of sugarplums danced in their heads.
And Mama in her kerchief and I in my cap
Had just settled down for a long winter's nap

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.

The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow
Gave a luster of midday to objects below.
When, what to my wondering eyes should appear
But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer,
With a little old driver so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment it must be Saint Nick.

More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
And he whistled and shouted and called them by name:
"Now, Dasher! Now, Dancer! Now, Prancer and Vixen!
On, Comet! On, Cupid! On Donner and Blitzen!
To the top of the porch, to the top of the wall!
Now, dash away! Dash away! Dash away, all!"

As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky,
So up to the housetop the coursers they flew,
With a sleigh full of toys and Saint Nicholas too.

And then in a twinkling I heard on the roof,
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.
As I drew in my head and was turning around,
Down the chimney Saint Nicholas came with a bound.

He was dressed all in fur from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot.

A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,
And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.

His eyes - how they twinkled! His dimples - how merry!

His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
And the beard on his chin was as white as the snow.

The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath.
He had a broad face and a little round belly,
That shook when he laughed like a bowl full of jelly.

He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And I laughed when I saw him in spite of myself.
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

He spoke not a word but went straight to his work,
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk,
And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose.

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim ere he drove out of sight,
"Happy Christmas to all and to all a good night!"

NOTE: "A Visit from St. Nicholas", also known as "The Night Before Christmas" and "'Twas the Night Before Christmas" from its first line, is a poem first published anonymously in 1823 and generally attributed to Clement Clarke Moore, although the claim has also been made that it was written by Henry Livingston, Jr.

The poem, which has been called "arguably the best-known verses ever written by an American", is largely responsible for some of the conceptions of Santa Claus from the mid-nineteenth century to today.

In 1953, Perry Como recorded a reading of "'Twas the Night Before Christmas". Its original release was on the LP record "Around the Christmas Tree".

Up On the Husetop

Up on the husetop reindeer pause,
Out jumps good old Santa Claus.
Down through the chimney with lots of toys,
All for the little ones, Christmas joys.

REFRAIN:

Ho, ho, ho! Who wouldn't go!
Ho, ho, ho! Who wouldn't go!
Up on the husetop, click, click, click,
Down through the chimney with good Saint Nick.

First comes the stocking of little Nell,
Oh, dear Santa fill it well;
Give her a dolly that laughs and cries
One that will open and shut her eyes.

REFRAIN

Next comes the stocking of little Will,
Oh just see what a glorious fill
Here is a hammer and lots of tacks,
Also a ball and a whip that cracks.

REFRAIN

NOTE: When Clement Clarke Moore penned "A Visit From St. Nicholas" as a Christmas entertainment for his children, he probably had no idea that his story would continue to be told for hundreds of years.

But thanks to its retelling, and the fact that Ohio composer and lyricist Benjamin Russell Hanby decided to use it as the inspiration for his holiday tune, the charming tale of Santa's annual visit has been chronicled for all time as "Up on the Husetop."

If Moore hadn't revealed Santa's entry point and Hanby hadn't agreed, children everywhere might still wonder how all those Christmas presents are delivered!

We Three Kings of Orient Are

We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar.
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star.

REFRAIN:

O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect Light.

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never, Over us all to reign.

REFRAIN

Frankincense to offer have I. Incense owns a Deity nigh.
Prayer and praising all men raising, Worship Him, God on high.

REFRAIN

Myrrh is mine: Its bitter perfume, Breaths a life of gathering gloom.
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

REFRAIN

Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice.
Alleluia, alleluia! Sounds through the earth and skies.

REFRAIN

NOTE: "We three Kings of Orient are" is one of the best-loved Christmas carols that was written in 1857 by Rev. John Henry Hopkins. The minister penned down the carol for the General Theological Seminary in New York City as a part of their Christmas pageant.

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

We wish you a Merry Christmas;
We wish you a Merry Christmas;
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

REFRAIN:

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin;
Good tidings for Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Oh, bring us a figgy pudding;
Oh, bring us a figgy pudding;
Oh, bring us a figgy pudding and a cup of good cheer.

REFRAIN

We won't go until we get some;
We won't go until we get some;
We won't go until we get some, so bring some out here.

REFRAIN

NOTE: "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" is a popular secular sixteenth-century English carol from the West Country of England. It is one of the few traditional holiday carols that makes mention of the New Year celebration.

The tradition of carolers being given Christmas treats for singing to wealthy members of the community is reflected in this Christmas song -- We Wish You a Merry Christmas! In the days of Olde England, groups of traveling singers would entertain for food or pay. These groups were called "waits" and were extremely popular at Christmas time.

What Child is This?

What child is this, who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap, is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come peasant king to own Him,
The King of kings, salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The Virgin sings her lullaby:
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

NOTE: The melody of this carol is from the Tudor tune "Greensleeves," which featured bawdy original lyrics filled with anything but holiday imagery. Later, Shakespeare mentioned the song in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* during an execution scene. In 1865, William Dix, an Englishman, wrote "The Manger Throne," of which three verses evolved into "What Child Is This?"

White Christmas

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas

Just like the ones I used to know

Where the treetops glisten,

and children listen

To hear sleigh bells in the snow

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas

With every Christmas card I write

May your days be merry and bright

And may all your Christmases be white

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas

With every Christmas card I write

May your days be merry and bright

And may all your Christmases be white

NOTE: The most famous Christmas song "White Christmas" was penned and composed by Irving Berlin in 1942. It originally appeared in the movie *Holiday Inn* starring Bing Crosby and later in the movie called after its name as *White Christmas* again starring Bing Crosby along with Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney and Vera-Ellen.

Winter Wonderland!

Sleigh bells ring, are you listening,
In the lane, snow is glistening
A beautiful sight, We're happy tonight.
Walking in a winter wonderland.

Gone away is the bluebird,
Here to stay is a new bird
He sings a love song, As we go along,
Walking in a winter wonderland.

In the meadow we can build a snowman,
Then pretend that he is Parson Brown
He'll say, "Are you married?" We'll say, "No man,
"But you can do the job when you're in town."

Later on, we'll conspire, As we dream by the fire
To face unafraid, The plans that we've made,
Walking in a winter wonderland.

In the meadow we can build a snowman,
And pretend that he's a circus clown
We'll have lots of fun with Mister Snowman,
Until the other kids knock him down.

When it snows, ain't it thrilling,
Though your nose gets a chilling
We'll frolic and play, the Eskimo way,
Walking in a winter wonderland.

NOTE: "Winter Wonderland" is a pop standard written in 1934 by Felix Bernard (composer) and Richard B. Smith (lyricist). It has been recorded many different times by various artists. The lyrics have undoubtedly contributed to the magical vision of snow at Christmas together with the tradition of building snowmen and, therefore, turning fantasy into reality by creating a real Winter Wonderland.

For MUCH MORE Christmas Fun, Visit My Web Site:

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