

Christmas Lullabies

Silent Night

FRANZ XAVER GRUBER & JOSEPH MOHR, 1818

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

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Away in a Manger

WILLIAM J. KIRKPATRICK / JAMES R. MURRAY, C.1891

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed
The little lord Jesus lay down his sweet head
The stars in the night 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 us to heaven to live with thee there

Little Donkey

ERIC BOSWELL, 1959

Little donkey, little donkey
On a dusty road
Got to keep on plodding onwards
With the precious load

Been a long time, little donkey
Through the winter's night
Don't give up now, little donkey
Bethlehem's in sight

Ring out those bells tonight
Bethlehem, bethlehem
Follow the star tonight,
Bethlehem, bethlehem

Little donkey, little donkey
Had a heavy day
Little donkey, carry Mary
Safely on her way

The First Noël

TRADITIONAL

The first Noël the angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
In fields as they lay

In fields where they
Lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night
That was so deep

Nöel, Nöel, Nöel, Nöel
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

Nöel, Nöel, Nöel, Nöel
Born is the king of Israel

Nöel, Nöel, Nöel, Nöel
Born is the king of Israel

O Little Town of Bethlehem

PHILLIPS BROOKS, LEWIS REDNER & RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS, 1868

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 tonight

O holy child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in
Be born to us today

We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell
Oh come to us, abide with us
Our lord Emmanuel

Good King Wenceslas

TRADITIONAL

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

When the good King asked his page,
Who is outside calling?
Does he have a place to stay,
While the snow is falling?

Go and get a coat for him
So he can be warm
Give him food enough to eat
While we're in this storm

When the next day had arrived
And the sun was shining,
Now the stranger knew a dark cloud
Had a silver lining
One day he'll stop by again
Never more a stranger
We'll remember our good king
Saving him from danger

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night

TRADITIONAL

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around

"Fear not", said he, for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled minds
Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind

"To you in David's town this day
Is born of David's line
A saviour who is Christ the Lord
And this shall be the sign
The heav'nly babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swaddling clothes
And in a manger laid"

Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God and thus,
Addressed their joyful song:
"All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace
Goodwill henceforth from heav'n to men
Begin and never cease"