

A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT CHRISTMAS SONG

Tune: "Bold Thady Quill" / "Nell Flaherty's Drake"

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is simple and repetitive, with a consistent rhythm of eighth notes. Chords are indicated by letters above the staff: D, G, Bm, and A. The lyrics are written below the staff, with some words underlined to indicate phrasing. The song tells a story of a woman who was once a 'big gift' but is now just one of many requests on Santa's list.

D

COME _____ LIS - - TEN A WHILE AS I
BUT ES - - CAPE FROM CON - - FU - - SION WOULD
UN _____ DAUNT - - ED THEY SOON FACED THE

D

TELL YOU A STO - - - RY OF _____
PROVE NOT SO EA - - - SY AND THEIR
IS - - - SUE OF PRE - - SENTS "WE'RE _____

G Bm D A

CHRIST - MAS A DAY FILLED WITH LOVE AND WITH JOY I'LL ____
STA - - TED RE - SOLVE WAS SOON PUT TO THE TEST: IT BE -
SPEND - ING TOO MUCH!" THEY BOTH SEEMED TO A - GREE SO IT

D

TELL OF A HOL - I - - DAY BACK IN THE FIF - TIES THE ____
- GAN WITH THE CARDS "FOR THIS CHRIST - MAS" ASKED MO - THER "CAN WE
SOON WAS DE - CID - ED (WITH - - OUT JU - V'NILE IN - PUT) ONE ____

G Bm A D

DAYS OF MY YOUTH I _____ WAS ON - LY A BOY MY _____
END OUT A FEW AND _____ FOR - - GET ALL THE REST?" NOW ____ IT
BIG GIFT ONE LIT - - TLE FOR MY BRO - THER AND ME BUT OF THIS

A D A Bm

PA - - RENTS BE - LIEVED FOR WHAT - E - VER THE REA - SON THAT E -
SEEMED A GREAT PLAN TILL SHE GOT TO THE DE - TAILS OF DE -
SEN - - SI - - BLE PLAN THEY'D FOR - - GOT - TEN TO TELL US SO OUR

G Bm D A

- NOUGH WAS E - NOUGH AS THE GREAT DAY DREW NEAR SO WE'D
- CID - ING WHAT NAMES WOULD BE DROPPED FROM HER LIST AF - TER
SAN - TA RE - QUESTS WERE STILL THREE PA - GES LONG ON THE

D D

CEL - E - - BRATE QUI - ET - - LY KEEP A LOW PRO - FILE AND A -
LATE NIGHTS BAD MEM - 'RIES AND HEA - TED DIS - CUS - SIONS THE ____
MORN NEATH THE TREE THERE WERE DO - ZENS OF BOX - ES AND TWO

- VOID THE IN - SAN - I - TY THAT END - - ED EACH YEAR
 FI - - NAL RE - SULT? ___ OP - - POR - - TU - - NI - - TY MISSED!
 TIRED ___ A - DULTS ___ WON - D'RING WHAT HAD GONE WRONG!

[4]

THEY HAD PUT OUT THE WORD BACK IN EARLY DECEMBER
 AND HOPED IT WOULD SPREAD FAR AND WIDE IN BOTH CLANS
 THAT FOR CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR WE'D BE CRUISING THE OCEANS -
 NO NEED TO HAVE US IN YOUR VISITING PLANS!
 WELL IT WORKED LIKE A CHARM FOR ALMOST A WHOLE HOUR
 AS WE GOT DRESSED FOR MASS ON THAT COLD CHRISTMAS DAY
 WHAT CAR DID WE SPOT COMING DOWN THE STREET TOWARDS US
 BUT THE GREEN OLDSMOBILE OF MY MOM'S COUSIN RAY?

[5]

MY DAD FLASHED A SIGN AND WE FROZE IN OUR PLACES
 THE DOORCHIMES AND KNOCKS WE'D BEEN TRAINED TO IGNORE
 BUT MY KID BROTHER CRACKED AND HE STARTED TO WHIMPER
 WITH HIS FACE IN A PILLOW AS HE LAY ON THE FLOOR
 THEN ONE OF RAY'S KIDS SPOTTED US THRU THE WINDOW
 AND CALLED HIS TWO SIBLINGS TO COME OVER AND SEE
 WE HAD TO PRETEND THAT WE ALL WERE DELIGHTED
 IT WAS TEN WHEN THEY SHOWED UP - THEY LEFT ABOUT THREE

[6]

NOW MY PARENTS HAD DECIDED WE'D BE GOING OUT FOR DINNER
 TO GIVE MOM A REST WAS THE LAUDABLE PLAN
 WE'D HEAD FOR OUR FAVORITE, THE NEW HONG KONG GARDENS
 AND FEAST ON CHOP SUEY AND MOO GOO GAI PAN
 INSTEAD SHE FED RAY AND HIS RAVENOUS COHORT
 AND I LEARNED ON THAT CHRISTMAS WHAT "MIRACLE" MEANS
 SINCE THAT'S WHAT IT TOOK TO FEED FIVE HUNGRY VISITORS
 ON TWO PACKS OF HOT DOGS AND THREE CANS OF BEANS

[7]

YOU'VE NOW HEARD THE TALE OF A DIFFERENT CHRISTMAS
 YOU'VE HAD A FEW LIKE IT, I'D ALMOST BE SURE
 AND IT PROVES THAT IN SPITE OF OUR EFFORTS TO CHANGE IT
 THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS WILL ALWAYS ENDURE
 THE CARDS AND THE GIFTS AND THE DINNERS AND VISITS
 WILL ALWAYS REFLECT THE DAY'S MESSAGE OF JOY:
 THAT THE ESSENCE OF LOVE CAME TO DWELL HERE AMONG US
 WHEN OUR LORD TOOK THE SHAPE OF A SWEET BABY BOY!
 MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!