

# Gotta Go Camel

*from "Three Christmas Camels"*

*Arranged for mixed voices  
with piano accompaniment;  
also available in SATB*

Rilla Paterson 1995  
*Revised May 2020*

*Three Christmas Camels:  
Gotta Go, Camel  
Camel-ong Cowboy  
Come Along Camel Calypso  
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## **Gotta Go Camel**

*from Three Christmas Camels*

*(Verse 1)* I got a call from an angel  
About a baby born today  
He's lyin' all in a manger,  
And there's a star to guide me all of the way.  
I'm gonna shake my camel out o' the sand,  
I'm gonna take my camel over the land,  
I'm gonna make my camel understand  
We gotta go!

*(Verse 2)* I got food for the journey  
And water for a week;  
I'm in the mood to be early,  
'Cos I don't wanna miss his party treat.  
We're gonna find that lowly cattle shed,  
We're gonna dance all night beside his bed,  
So just you take good care of what I said,  
We gotta go!

*(Chorus)* We gotta go, camel,  
That's what the angel said;  
We do the soft shoe shuffle through the shiftin' sand  
'Till we find his manger bed.  
So don't be slow, camel,  
Follow the distant light!  
I'm gonna take that baby all o' my love,  
An' I wanna get there tonight!

(Verse 3) Travelling through the night,  
Holding my camel tight,  
Knowing the wonder of all that I've heard,  
Born for me an' you,  
Can it be really true?  
Keeping the secret is gonna be hard!  
I'm gonna meet the people in the story today,  
I know what's gonna happen but I shouldn't say:  
When the angel claps his wings so bright  
The shepherds on the hill get an awful fright - Oooh!

(Verse 4) I bet them Wise Men are gonna surprise 'em  
With their incense, myrrh and gold;  
We'll gather around and we won't make a sound  
As we shelter from the cold.  
I wanna front seat with a fabulous view,  
An' a place in the circle for my camel, too,  
And if that boy should dare to cry,  
We'll sing a lullaby.....

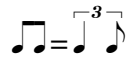
(Verse 5) As we go ridin' the dunes  
You'll hear me hummin' the tunes  
Of all the songs I want to sing,  
With hope on my back, a smile in my sack,  
And all my joy for the baby King,  
I'm gonna keep my camel walkin' tall,  
He's gonna lead me to that Holy Stall,  
I wanna meet that Saviour of us all,  
We gotta go!

(Chorus) We gotta go, camel,  
That's what the angel said;  
We do the soft shoe shuffle through the shiftin' sand  
'Till we find his manger bed.  
So don't be slow, camel,  
Follow the distant light!  
I'm gonna take that baby all o' my love,  
An' I wanna get there tonight!

# Gotta Go, Camel

from "Three Christmas Camels"

♩ = 120



(Voices 3 & 4 bars 1-5 optional)

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Voice 1

Voice 2

Voice 3

Voice 4

Piano

*mf*

Dee-doo-bee - Doo-doo - doo - doo - shoo-bee-doo ah, — shoo-bee-

*mf*

Dee-doo-bee - doo - doo - doo - doo - shoo-bee-doo ah, — shoo-bee-

*mf*

4 *mf*

1.I got a call from an an - gel a-bout a

*mf*

1.I got a call from an an - gel a-bout a

doo-bee-doo! Pom-pom-pom! Pom, pom, pom, pom,

doo-bee-doo! Pom-pom pom - pom! Pom - pom, pom - pom,

8

ba-by born to day, He's ly-in' all in a man - ger, and there's a

ba-by born to day, He's ly-in' all in a man - ger, and there's a

pom, pom, doo-bee-doo- doo, pom! Pom, pom, pom, pom,

pom - pom, doo - oo! Pom - pom, pom - pom,

12

star to guide me all of the way, I'm gon-nashake my cam-el out-o' the sand, I'm gon-na

star to guide me all of the way, I'm gon-nashake my cam-el out-o' the sand, I'm gon-na

pom, pom, pom-pa-dom pom, pom! Shake my cam-el out-o' the sand,

pom - pom, doo - oo! Pom - pom, pom - pom - pom,

16

take my cam-el ov-er the land, I'm gon-na make my cam-el un-der stand\_ we got-ta

take my cam-el ov-er the land, I'm gon-na make my cam-el un-der stand\_ we got-ta

take my cam-el ov-er the land, make my cam-el un-der stand\_ we got-ta

pom - pom - mon - pom - pom, make my cam-el un-der-stand, we got-ta

20

go! 2.I got food for the jour - ney, and  
 go! 2.I got food for the jour - ney, and  
 go! Choo, choo, choo! Doo, doo, food for the jour - ney!  
 go! Choo, choo, choo! Doo - oo, doo - oo,

24

wa-ter for a week; I'm in the mood to be ear - ly, 'cos I  
 wa-ter for a week; I'm in the mood to be ear - ly, 'cos I  
 Doo - doo - doo! Pom! Doo, doo, doo, 'cos I  
 doo - oo! and wa-ter-for me! Pom! Doo - oo, doo - oo! I

28

don't wan-na miss his par - ty treat! We're gon-na find that low - ly

don't wan-na miss his par - ty treat! W're gon-na find that low - ly

don't wan-na miss his par - ty treat! Pom! Pom - pom,

don't wan-na miss his par - ty treat! Pom! Pom - pom -

31

cat - tle shed, We're gon-na dance all night be - side\_ his bed,\_ so just you

cat - tle shed, We're gon-na dance all night be - side\_ his bed, so just you

cat - tle shed. Pom - pom - pom! Be - side his bed, just

pom - pom - pom - pom - pom - pom - pom! Just



34

(Chorus)

take good care of what I said: We got-ta go! Choo! Choo! Choo! We got-ta

take good care of what I said: We got-ta go! Choo! Choo! Choo! We got-ta

take good care of what I said: We got-ta go! Choo! Choo! Choo! We got-ta

take good care of what I said: We got-ta go! We got-ta

38

go, cam-el! That's what the an-gel said! We do the

go, cam-el! That's what the an-gel said! We do the

go, cam-el! Pom, pom, pom-pom-pom

go, cam-el, cam-el! Pom, pom, pom-pom-pom!

42

soft shoe shuf fle through the shift-in' sand till we find his man ger bed!

Ah

Ah Ah Ah

45

So don't be slow, cam - el! Fol low\_ the dis-tant

So don't be slow, cam - el! Fol low\_ the dis-tant

So don't be slow, cam - el! Fol low\_ the dis tant

Ho - ho - ho - ho - ho! cam - el, cam - el! Ah!

49

light! I'm gon-na take that ba-by all o' my love, an' I wan-na get there to night!

light! I'm gon-na take that ba-by all o' my love, an' I wan-na get there to night!

light! I'm gon na take that ba by all o' my love, an' I wan na get there to night!

Pom-pom-pom! Ah Ah Ah

53

3. Trav-ell-ing through the night, hold-ing my cam-el tight,

3.Ah Ah

3.Ah

Pom-pom! 3.Ah!

56

know-ing the won-der of all that I've heard, Born for me an' you! Can it be real-ly true?

Ah Ah Ah

ah! Ah!

Ah! Ah!

60

Keep-in' the se - cret is gon-na be hard! I'm gon-na meet the peo-ple in the

Ah Ah

Ah!

Ah! Ah!

63

stor-y to day, I know what's gon na hap-pen but I should n't say! When the

Ah

Ah!

Ah! When the

66

an - gel claps his wings so bright... (Clap!)

Ah. (Clap!)

...the shep-herds on the hill get an (Clap!)

an - gel claps his wings so bright... ...the shep-herds on the hill get an

69

*p*  
 Ooh! 4. I bet them Wise Men are gon-na sur prise 'em with their  
*p*  
 Ooh! 4. I bet them Wise Men are gon-na sur prise 'em with their  
*p*  
 aw- ful\_ fright! Ooh! 4. Pom, pom, pom, pom,  
*p*  
 aw- ful\_ fright! Ooh! 4. Pom, pom pom pom,

72

in- cense, myrrh and\_ gold;\_ We'll gath-er a- round, an' we  
 in- cense, myrrh and\_ gold;\_ We'll ga-ther a- round, an' we  
 With their myrrh and gold; Pom! Ah\_ Ah\_  
 With their myrrh and gold; Pom! Ah - ah -

75

won't make a sound as we shel-ter from the cold; I

won't make a sound as we shel-ter, an' I wan-na, wan na, wan-na, wan-na,

Ah as we shel-ter, an' I wan-na, I wan-na, I

ah - ah - ah - ah! I wan-na, I wan-na,

78

*f* wan-na front seat with a fab-u-lous view...

*f* wan-na front seat with a fab-u-lous view...

*f* wan-na front seat with a fab-u-lous view, an' a place in the cir-cle for my

*f* wan-na, a seat, a fab-u-lous view, an' a place in the cir-cle for my

an' if that boy should dare to cry, We'll sing a lul - la -

an' if that boy should dare to cry, We'll sing a lul - la -

cam-el too, -yeah? Ah We'll sing a

cam-el too, -yeah? Ah We'll sing a

The musical score consists of five systems. The first four systems are vocal lines, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are written below the notes. The fifth system is a piano accompaniment, with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are aligned with the vocal lines.



(No swung rhythm for two bars)

85

by... 5.As we go

by, sing a lul - la - by.

lul - la - by.

lul - la - by.

lul - la - by.

(No swung rhythm for two bars) (Resume swung rhythm)

(No swung rhythm for this bar) (Resume swung rhythm)

(No swung rhythm for two bars) (Resume swung rhythm)

88

*mf*

rid - in' the dunes, you'll hear me hum-min' the tunes of all the songs I want to sing;

*mf*

5.Doo - bee doo doo - bee - doo, Doo-bee-doo doo - bee - doo, Barp! Barp!

*mf*

5.Barp - barp! Barp-barp! Barp! Barp!

5.Doo - doo, doo - doo. Barp! Barp!

*mf*

91

— With hope on my back, a smile in my sack, an'

Bee-doo-bee-doo-bee-doo! Barp! Barp! an'

Bee-doo ah! Pom, pom! Barp! Pom, pom! Barp!

Bee-doo-bee-doo-bee-doo! Pom, pom! Barp! Pom, pom! Barp!

94

all my joy for the ba - by King! I'm gon-na keep my cam el walk - in' tall, he's gon-na

all my joy for the ba - by King! I'm gon-na keep my cam-el walk in' tall, he's gon-na

all my joy for the ba - by King! keep my cam el walk - in' tall, he'll

all my joy for the ba - by King! keep my cam-el walk - in' tall! he'll

98

lead me to that Ho-ly stall, I wan-na meet that Sav-iour of us all, we got-ta

lead me to that Ho-ly stall, I wan-na meet that Sav-iour of us all, we got-ta

lead me to that Ho-ly stall! And meet that Sav-iour of us all, we got-ta

lead me to that Ho-ly stall! And meet that Sav-iour of us all, we got-ta

102

(Chorus)

go! We got-ta go woh-woh-woh-woh, cam-el!

(Chorus)

go! We got-ta go woh-woh - woh, cam-el!

go! Choo! Choo choo! Go woh - woh! cam-el!

go! Choo! Choo-choo! Go - - woh! cam-el, cam-el!

106

That's what the an-gel said! We do the soft shoe shuf-fle through the

That's what he said! We do the soft shoo-shoo-bee-doo-bee

That's what he said! The shoo-bee-doo ah!\_ The

That's what the an-gel said! We do the shoo-bee-doo ah!\_ The

109

shift - in' sand till we find his man ger bed, so don't be slow  
 doo-bee-doo ah, till we find his man ger bed, so don't be slow  
 shoo-bee-doo ah, till we find his bed, so don't be  
 shoo-bee-doo ah, till we find his bed, so don't be

112

woh - woh-woh-woh, cam - el! Fol - low the dis - tant  
 - woh - woh-woh-woh, cam - el!  
 slow woh - woh-woh-woh, cam - el! Cam el!  
 slow-woh woh-woh-woh, cam - el! Cam - el!

115

light! I'm gon-na take that ba-by all o' my love, Ah

Fol-low the light! Ah I'm gon-na take that ba-by

Fol-low the light! Ah

Fol-low the light! Ah

119

I'm gon-na take that ba-by all o my love, an' I

all o' my love, I'm gon-na take that ba-by all o' my love, an' I

ah! I'm gon-na take that ba-by all o' my love, an' I

I'm gon-na take that ba-by all o' my love, an' I

(L.H.) (L.H.)

122

*f*  
wan - na get there to - night!\_\_ Oh yeah!

*f*  
wan - na get there to - night!\_\_ Oh yeah!

*f*  
wan - na get there to - night!\_\_ Oh yeah!

*f*  
wan - na get there to - night!\_\_ Oh yeah!

*f*  
wan - na get there to - night!\_\_ Oh yeah!