

# **Camel-ong Cowboy**

*from "Three Christmas Camels"*

Rilla Paterson  
1995

*Soprano, Alto, Piano*  
*(Alto II optional)*

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

*From 2025 these songs are available as picture books  
with audio tracks accessed via a QR code in the book*

*Further information: <https://rillapaterson.com>*

## Camel-ong Cowboy

I'm a poor, lonesome cowboy, and my horse lay down and died,  
So I got myself a camel for the lonesome cattle ride.  
Now I go drivin' dogies across the prairie trail,  
While singin' to my camel as we travel nose to tail.  
And things ain't so different from how they used to be;  
The world is still a lonesome place for cattle men like me,  
But lately I've been learnin' to drive my blues away,  
Just thinkin' 'bout my Jesus Saviour born on Christmas Day!

*So I will sing:*

*Hallelujah! Yippee, I ride a liddle camel,  
Hallelujah, Yippee-i-ay,  
Hallelujah! Yippee, I ride a liddle camel,  
Hallelujah, Yippee all day! Ah-um, Ah-um...*

This camel's none too purdy\*, her shape is kinda queer,  
But she ain't exactly tardy when she gets to chase a steer – Yahoo!  
She may not be attractive, but she's active and beside –  
There ain't much else to talk to an' there's nothin' else to ride.  
This critter sure is homely\*\* and on the smelly side,  
But she don't mind the thistles and the cactus in her hide,  
She don't get cold or hungry, her throat ain't never dry,  
My strong, trusty camel will go with me till I die.

*So I will sing:*

*Hallelujah! Yippee, I ride a liddle camel,  
Hallelujah, Yippee-i-ay,  
Hallelujah! Yippee, I ride a liddle camel,  
Hallelujah, Yippee all day! Ah-um, Ah-um, Ah-um...*

I'm ridin' on my camel, rememberin' the time  
Those Three Wise Men in Bethlehem rode camels just like mine!  
If Jesus he was born again, I think I'd do the same,  
I'd go seek out the manger and I'd magnify his name,  
Oh yes, the story of the glory inside that cattle stall  
Is tellin' me I needn't be so lonesome after all –  
That liddle Child so far from home that sat on Mary's knee  
Is way up in that big blue sky and watchin' over me,

*So I will sing:*

*Hallelujah! Yippee, I ride a liddle camel,  
Hallelujah, Yippee-i-ay,  
Hallelujah! Yippee, I ride a liddle camel,  
Hallelujah, Yippee all day!*

*Ride along, don't dawdle all the dogies all day,  
Ride along, don't dawdle all day, Ride along!  
Ride along, don't dawdle all the dogies all day,  
Ride along, don't dawdle all day! Yeow!*

\*purdy = pretty      \*\*homely = ugly

# Camel-ong Cowboy

from "Three Christmas Camels"

© Rilla Paterson 1995

$\text{♩} = 170$   
 $\text{♪} = \text{♪} \text{ } \overset{\frown}{3} \text{ } \text{♪}$

SOPRANO

ALTO

ALTO II  
(Optional)

Piano

1. I'm a poor lone some

1. I'm a poor lone some

1. I'm a poor lone some

6

cow boy, and my horse lay down and died, so I got my-self a cam-el for the

cow boy, and my horse lay down and died, so I got my-self a cam-el for the

cow boy, and my horse lay down and died, so I got my-self a cam-el for the

11

lone-some cat tle\_ ride.\_ Now I go driv-in' do- gies\_ a -

lone-some cat tle\_ ride.\_ Now I go driv-in' do- gies\_ a -

lone-some cat tle\_ ride.\_ Now I go driv-in' do- gies\_ a -

16

cross the prai-rie trail, while sing in'\_ to\_ my cam-el\_ as\_ we trav-el\_ nose to

cross the prai-rie trail, while sing in'\_ to\_ my cam-el\_ as\_ we trav-el\_ nose to

cross the prai-rie trail, while sing in'\_ to\_ my cam-el\_ as\_ we trav-el\_ nose to

21

tail. And things ain't so dif frent\_ from how they used to be; The

tail. And things ain't so dif frent\_ from how they used to be; The

tail. And things ain't so dif frent\_ from how they used to be; The

26

world is still a lone-some place for cat tle\_ men like me, But late-ly I\_ been

world is still a lone-some place for cat tle\_ men like me, But late-ly I\_ been

world is still a lone-some place for cat tle\_ men like me, But late-ly I\_ been

31

learn in' to drive my blues aw ay just think-in'bout my Je-sus Sav iour

learn in' to drive my blues aw ay just think-in'bout my Je-sus Sav iour

learn in' to drive my blues aw ay just think-in'bout my Je-sus Sav iour

36

*(Yelp)*

born on Christ-mas Day. So I will sing Hal-le-lu - jah, Yip -pee, I ride a lid-dle

*(Yelp)*

born on Christ-mas Day. So I will sing Hal-le-lu - jah, Yip -pee, I ride a lid-dle

*(Yelp)*

born on Christ-mas Day. So I will sing Hal-le-lu - jah, Yip -pee, I ride a lid-dle

40

(Yelp)

cam-el, Hal-le-lu-jah, Yip-pee i- ay! Hal-le - lu-jah, Yip-pee, I ride a lid-dle cam-el, Hal-le

cam-el, Hal-le-lu-jah, Yip-pee i- ay! Hal-le - lu-jah, Yip-pee, I ride a lid-dle cam-el, Hal-le

cam-el, Hal-le-lu-jah, Yip-pee i- ay! Hal-le - lu-jah, Yip-pee, I ride a lid-dle cam-el, Hal-le

44

lu - jah, Yip-pee all day! Ah - um, Ah -

lu - jah, Yip-pee all day! Ah - um, Ah -

lu - jah, Yip-pee all day! Ah - um, Ah -

*\*purdy = pretty*

um. 2.This cam-el's\_ none too pur-dy\*, her shape is kind-a

um. 2.This cam-el's\_ none too pur-dy\*, her shape is kind-a

um. 2.This cam-el's\_ none too pur-dy\*, her shape is kind-a

queer, But she ain't ex-act-ly tar - dy when she gets to chase a steer!

queer, But she ain't ex-act-ly tar - dy when she gets to chase a steer!\_\_\_\_\_

queer, But she ain't ex-act-ly tar - dy when she gets to chase a steer!\_\_\_\_\_

58 (Shout)

Ya-hoo! She may not be at - trac tive, but she's ac-tive and be- side, There

— She may not be at - trac tive, but she's ac-tive and be- side, There

— She may not be at - trac tive, but she's ac-tive and be- side, There

63

ain't much else to talk to and I've noth-in' else to ride. This crit-ter sure is

ain't much else to talk to and I've noth-in' else to ride. this crit-ter sure is

ain't much else to talk to and I've noth-in' else to ride. this crit-ter sure is

68

**\*\* homely = ugly**

home - ly\*\*, and on the smel-ly side, But she don't mind the

home - ly\*\*, and on the smel-ly side, But she don't mind the

home - ly\*\*, and on the smel-ly side, But she don't mind the

72

this-tles and the cac-tus in her hide; She don't get cold or hung-ry, her

this-tles and the cac-tus in her hide; She don't get cold or hun-gry, her

this-tles and the cac-tus in her hide; She don't get cold or hun-gry, her

77

throat ain't nev er\_ dry;\_ Mystrong, trust-y cam-el will go with me till I die,

throat ain't ne ver\_ dry;\_ Mystrong, trust-y cam-el will go with me till I die,

throat ain't ne ver\_ dry;\_ Mystrong, trust-y cam-el will go with me till I die,

82

(Yelp)

So I will sing Hal-le-lu - jah, Yip-pee I ride a lid-dle cam-el, Hal-le-lu - jah,

(Yelp)

Sing Hal-le-lu - jah, Yip-pee, I ride a lid-dle cam-el, Hal-le-lu - jah,

(Yelp)

Sing Hal-le-lu - jah, Yip-pee, I ride a lid-dle cam-el, Hal-le-lu - jah,

86

(Yelp)

Yip-pee-i - ay, Hal-le - lu- jah, Yip -pee, I ride a lid-dle cam- el, Hal-le - lu- jah, Yip-pee all

Yip-pee-i - ay, Hal-le - lu- jah, Yip -pee, I ride a lid-dle cam- el, Hal-le - lu- jah, Yip-pee all

Yip-pee-i - ay, Hal-le - lu- jah, Yip -pee, I ride a lid-dle cam- el, Hal-le - lu- jah, Yip-pee all

90

day! Ah - um, Ah - um Ah-

day! Ah - um, Ah - um Ah-

day! Ah - um, Ah - um Ah-

95

um. Ah Hal - le -

um. 3.I'm rid-in' on my cam-el rem

um. Ah, Hal - le

101

lu - jah! Ah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal-le-

em-ber- in' the time those Three Wise Men in Beth-le hem rode cam-els just like

lu - jah! Ah, Hal - le - lu -

106

lu - jah, Hal-le - lu - jah! Ah Hal - le - lu - -  
 mine. If Je-sus he was born a- gain, I think I'd do the same,  
 - jah! Ah Hal - le - lu - -

111

jah! Ah, Hal - le - lu - jah! Oh yes, the  
 I'd go seek out the man-ger an' I'd mag-ni-fy his name, Oh yes, the  
 jah! Ah, Hal - le - lu - jah! Oh yes, the

116

sto-ry of the glo-ry in - side that cat-tle stall is tel lin' me I

sto-ry of the glo-ry in - side that cat-tle stall is tel lin' me I

sto-ry of the glo-ry in - side that cat-tle stall is tel lin' me I

121

need-n't be so... Oh, so lone-some! Ah Hal - le-

need-n't be so lone-some af-ter all; That lit-tle Child so far from home that

need-n't be so... Ah Hal - le-

126

lu - jah! Ah, Hal - le - lu - -  
 sat on Ma - ry's knee is way up in that big blue sky an' watch-in' ov - er  
 lu - jah! Ah, Hal - le - lu - -

131

*(Yelp)*  
 jah! Sing Hal-le-lu - jah, Yip-pee I ride a lid-dle cam-el, Hal-le-lu - jah,  
*(Yelp)*  
 me, So I will sing Hal-le-lu - jah Yip-pee I ride a lid-dle cam-el, Hal-le-lu - jah,  
*(Yelp)*  
 jah! Hal-le-lu - jah Yip-pee I ride a lid-dle cam-el, Hal-le-lu - jah,

135

*(Yelp)*

Yip-pee-i - ay, Hal-le - lu-jah, Yip-pee I ride a lid-dle cam-el, Hal-le lu-jah, Yip-pee all

Yip-pee-i - ay, Hal-le - lu-jah, Yip-pee, I ride a lid-dle cam-el, Hal-le - lu-jah, Yip-pee all

Yip-pee-i - ay, Hal-le - lu-jah, Yip-pee, I ride a lid-dle cam-el, Hal-le - lu-jah, Yip-pee all

139

day! Ride a-long, don't daw-dle all the dog-ies all day, Ride a-long don't

day! Ride a - long, don't daw-dle all the dog-ies all day, Ride a -

day! Ride a-long, don't daw-dle all the dog-ies all

142

daw-dle all day, Ride a - long, Ride a-long, don't daw-dle all the dog-ies all  
 long don't daw-dle all day, Ride a-long, Ride a - long, don't daw-dle all the  
 day, Ride a-long, don't daw-dle all day! Ride a-long, don't

145

*(Shout)*

day, ride a-long! Ride a - long don't daw-dle all day! Yeow!  
 dog-ies all day, ride a - long, don't daw-dle all day! Yeow!  
 daw-dle all the dog-ies all day! Don't daw-dle all day! Yeow!