

david bowie and bing crosby little drummer boy lyrics

David Bowie and Bing Crosby Little Drummer Boy Lyrics: A Timeless Holiday Collaboration

david bowie and bing crosby little drummer boy lyrics have become synonymous with one of the most iconic Christmas duets in music history. This unique collaboration between two legendary artists from very different musical worlds created a memorable version of the classic Christmas song "The Little Drummer Boy," blending Bing Crosby's smooth, traditional crooning with David Bowie's distinctive, theatrical style. The fusion of their voices and the poignant lyrics make this holiday song a timeless favorite that continues to resonate with audiences around the world.

The Story Behind the Collaboration

The collaboration between David Bowie and Bing Crosby was both unexpected and magical. Recorded in 1977, this duet was part of Bing Crosby's television special titled **Bing Crosby's Merrie Olde Christmas**. At the time, Bowie was a rising star known for his glam rock persona and avant-garde music, while Crosby was an established icon of traditional pop and Christmas music. Despite their contrasting styles, the two artists came together to perform a fresh take on "The Little Drummer Boy," creating a blend that was both nostalgic and innovative.

This duet is often referred to as "Peace on Earth/Little Drummer Boy" because it combines the traditional lyrics of "The Little Drummer Boy" with a newly written counterpoint called "Peace on Earth." The original "Little Drummer Boy" lyrics tell the story of a poor boy who plays his drum as a humble gift for the newborn Jesus, emphasizing themes of humility, giving, and devotion. The added "Peace on Earth" lyrics, sung by Bowie, bring a hopeful message of harmony and goodwill, perfect for the spirit of Christmas.

Exploring the Lyrics of "The Little Drummer Boy"

Understanding the lyrics of the "Little Drummer Boy" portion helps to appreciate why this song has endured for decades. The song is simple yet powerful:

**"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."**

The repetition of "pa rum pum pum pum" mimics the sound of the drum, creating an immersive auditory experience. The lyrics narrate the story of a boy without material gifts

who instead offers his music, symbolizing

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the significance of David Bowie and Bing Crosby's version of 'The Little Drummer Boy' lyrics?

David Bowie and Bing Crosby's version of 'The Little Drummer Boy' features a unique duet where Bowie adds a contemporary and somewhat edgy style, creating a memorable Christmas classic that blends traditional lyrics with a modern twist.

Are the lyrics of 'The Little Drummer Boy' changed in David Bowie and Bing Crosby's duet?

No, the traditional lyrics of 'The Little Drummer Boy' remain largely intact, but David Bowie adds spoken word and additional lines, making the performance distinctive and adding personality to the classic song.

Where can I find the full lyrics of 'The Little Drummer Boy' as performed by David Bowie and Bing Crosby?

The full lyrics of 'The Little Drummer Boy' by David Bowie and Bing Crosby can be found on various lyrics websites, official music platforms, or by watching their 1977 Christmas special performance online.

Why did David Bowie and Bing Crosby collaborate on 'The Little Drummer Boy'?

David Bowie and Bing Crosby collaborated in 1977 for Bing Crosby's Christmas special to create a unique and memorable holiday performance, blending Bowie's rock style with Crosby's classic crooner voice.

What makes the lyrics of 'The Little Drummer Boy' by David Bowie and Bing Crosby different from other versions?

The uniqueness comes from Bowie's interjections and spoken parts added to the traditional lyrics, giving the song a conversational and somewhat humorous tone that contrasts with the solemn original.

Is the 'Little Drummer Boy' duet by David Bowie and Bing Crosby suitable for all ages?

Yes, the lyrics and performance are family-friendly and have become a beloved holiday

classic suitable for listeners of all ages.

How do David Bowie and Bing Crosby interact lyrically in 'The Little Drummer Boy'?

In the duet, Bing Crosby sings the traditional lyrics, while David Bowie adds spoken word passages, questioning and teasing Crosby's style, which adds a playful dynamic to the song.

Are there any notable lyric lines unique to David Bowie's version of 'The Little Drummer Boy'?

Yes, David Bowie adds lines like "Peace on Earth" and engages in dialogue with Crosby, which are not part of the original carol, making their version stand out.

Did David Bowie write any new lyrics for 'The Little Drummer Boy' duet with Bing Crosby?

David Bowie contributed the additional lines and spoken dialogue for the duet, but the core lyrics of 'The Little Drummer Boy' remain traditional and were not written by him.

Where was the David Bowie and Bing Crosby 'Little Drummer Boy' performance first aired?

Their performance was first aired on Bing Crosby's 1977 Christmas television special on NBC, where they performed the unique duet that has since become iconic.

Additional Resources

David Bowie and Bing Crosby Little Drummer Boy Lyrics: An Enduring Holiday Classic Explored

david bowie and bing crosby little drummer boy lyrics have become synonymous with one of the most iconic and enduring Christmas duets in popular music history. Released in 1977, this collaboration between two legendary artists brought a fresh and soulful interpretation to the traditional Christmas carol "The Little Drummer Boy," blending Bowie's distinctive style with Crosby's classic crooning. This article delves into the lyrical content, historical context, and cultural impact of the song, offering a comprehensive review and analysis that sheds light on why this duet remains a seasonal favorite decades later.

The Genesis of the Bowie and Crosby

Collaboration

The meeting of David Bowie and Bing Crosby in the late 1970s was unexpected yet perfectly timed. Bing Crosby, a towering figure in 20th-century American music and film, was known for his warm baritone voice and had long established himself as a Christmas staple with hits like "White Christmas." David Bowie, on the other hand, was a chameleon of rock and pop, renowned for his avant-garde approach and ability to reinvent his musical persona. Their collaboration on "The Little Drummer Boy" was part of Crosby's television special, "Bing Crosby's Merrie Olde Christmas," which aimed to blend traditional holiday music with contemporary performers.

The song itself is a retelling of a centuries-old carol, which tells the story of a poor boy who can only offer his drumming to the newborn Jesus, symbolizing humility and devotion. Bowie and Crosby's version retains the original lyrics but adds a new section — the "Peace on Earth" part — written specifically to complement the duet, creating a poignant dialogue between the two voices.

David Bowie and Bing Crosby Little Drummer Boy Lyrics: A Closer Look

The lyrics of "The Little Drummer Boy" are straightforward yet rich with symbolic meaning. The boy offers his humble gift of drumming, emphasizing the theme of giving from the heart rather than material wealth. The added "Peace on Earth" lyrics introduced in the Bowie-Crosby version bring a hopeful, universal message of harmony and goodwill, resonating deeply during a time of political and social unrest in the late 1970s.

Some key lyrical excerpts include:

- "Come they told me, pa rum pum pum pum / A new born King to see, pa rum pum

[David Bowie And Bing Crosby Little Drummer Boy Lyrics](#)

David Bowie And Bing Crosby Little Drummer Boy Lyrics

Related Articles

- [lost and found by anne schraff](#)
- [solution focused brief therapy sfbt](#)
- [answers to wordly wise 7](#)

[Back to Home](#)