TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

CHOPSTICKS Dulcimer Melody and Harmony

Arrangement by Mary Anne Cieutat

TabEdited by DUDA

VERSE

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Twane night be-fore christ-mas when all thru the housenot a

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crea-ture was stir-ring, not e-ven a mouse, the stock-ings were hung by the

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chim-ney with care, in hopes that St. Nic-olas soon would be there:

CHORUS

FA LA - LA-LA- LA - LA - LA

LA - LA- LA- LA - LA - LA

FA LA - LA-LA- LA - LA - LA - LA

FA LA - LA-LA- LA - LA - LA - LA
‘TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

‘Twas the night before Christmas, when all thro’ the house,
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there:

Chorus: Fa la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la.
         Fa la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la.

5. The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
6. While visions of sugarplums danc’d in their heads,
7. And Mama in her kerchief, and I in my cap,
8. Had just settled our brains for a long winter’s nap –

Chorus

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters, and threw up the sash.

Chorus

When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny rein-deer,
With a little old driver, so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.

Chorus

More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
And he whistled, and shouted, and call’d them by name:
“Now! Dasher, now! Dancer, now! Prancer, and Vixen,
“On! Comet, on! Cupid, on! Dunder and Blixem;

Chorus

So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,
With the sleigh full of Toys – and St. Nicholas too:
And then in a twinkling, I heard on the roof
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.

Chorus

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‘Twas the Night Before Christmas
As I drew in my head, and was turning around
Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound:
He was dress'd all in fur, from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnish'd with ashes and soot;

Chorus

A bundle of toys was flung on his back,
And he look'd like a peddler just opening his pack:
His eyes — how they twinkled! His dimples how merry,
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry:

Chorus

He had a broad face, and a little round belly
That shook when he laugh'd, like a bowl full of jelly:
He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And I laugh'd when I saw him in spite of myself;

Chorus

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And fill'd all the stockings: then turn'd with a jerk,
And laying a finger aside of his nose
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose.

Chorus

He sprung to his sleigh; to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew, like the down of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight —
Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night.

Chorus