

Away In A Manger

Words are perhaps anonymous or by Martin Luther or both & the Music is perhaps by James R. Murray, Mueller, William J. Kirkpatrick, Jonathan E. Spilman, or some combination of the four

E *A* *E*
Away in a manger no crib for His bed,
B7 *E*
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;
E7 *A* *E*
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay;
B7 *E* *A* *B7* *E* } Intro
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

E *A* *E*
The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes;
B7 *E*
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.
E7 *A* *E*
I love thee Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,
B7 *E* *A* *B7* *E*
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

E *A* *E*
Be near me Lord Jesus I ask you to stay,
B7 *E*
Close by me forever and love me I pray.
E7 *A* *E*
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
B7 *E* *A* *B7* *E*
And take us to heaven to live with you there.

Christmas as you go

History

The first two verses of "Away in a Manger" were originally published in a Lutheran Sunday school book in 1885. Two years later, James R. Murray published it as "Luther's Cradle Hymn". This may be true although scholars have not been able to find the poem among Luther's works. Thus the lyrics in the first two verses are usually considered American anonymous.

Some credit the music to James R. Murray; others think he merely harmonized an old German folk song. The most-common musical setting in North America is by Murray (1887), typically given the name "Mueller". A close second is by William J. Kirkpatrick (1895), who adapted a melody originally composed in 1837 by Jonathan E. Spilman to "Sweet Afton".

Wikipedia

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