

Santa Clause Is Coming to Town

John Fredrick Coots and Haven Gillespie © 1934 all rights reserved

A
I just came back from a lovely trip,
D E A
Along the Milky Way.

B7
I stopped off at the North Pole.
E B E7
To spend a holiday.

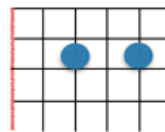
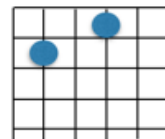
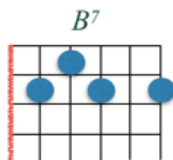
A A7
I called on dear old Santa Claus,
D E A
To see what I could see.

B7
He took me in his workshop,
E B E7
And told his plans to me, so...

CHORUS
A D
You'd better watch out, you'd better not cry,
A D
You'd better not pout, I'm telling you why;
A E A } Tag
Santa Claus is coming to town.

E7 A D
He's making a list, he's checkin' it twice,
A D
He's gonna find out who's naughty and nice;
A E A A7
Santa Claus is coming to town.

A7 D
He sees you when you're sleeping.



A D
He knows if you're awake.
B E
He knows if you've been bad or good;
B7 E E7
So be good for goodness sake.

CHORUS
E7 A D
With little tin horns and little toy drums,
A D
Rootie-toot-toots and rum-a-tum tums.
A E A E7
Santa Claus is comin' to town.

A D
Curly head dolls that toddle and coo,
A D
Elephants, boats and kiddie cars too.
A E A A7
Santa Claus is comin' to town.

A7 D
The kids and girls in boy-land,
A D
Will have a jubilee.
B E
They're going to build a toy land town,
B7 E E7
All around the Christmas tree.

CHORUS

History

"Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town" was written by John Fredrick Coots and Haven Gillespie and was first sung on Eddie Cantor's radio show in



John Fredrick Coots
Image from Wikipedia

November 1934. It became an instant hit with orders for 100,000 copies of sheet music and more than 30,000 records sold within 24 hours.

The earliest known recorded version of the song was by banjoist Harry Reser and his band on October 24, 1934 (Decca 264A) featuring Tom Stacks on vocal, the version



Haven Gillespie
Image from
[SecondHandSongs](#)

shown in the Variety charts of December 1934. The song was a sheet music hit, reaching #1. The song was also recorded on September 26, 1935, by Tommy Dorsey & His Orchestra.

It went on to be covered by many artists over the years and continues to see new arrangements and releases to this day.

Wikipedia



Covington, Kentucky
<http://ilovemy5kids.com/2010/09/covington-kentucky>