Gotta Go Camel

from "Three Christmas Camels"

Arranged for mixed voices
with piano accompaniment;
also available in SATB

Rilla Paterson 1995
Revised May 2020

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

Gotta Go Camel

from Three Christmas Camels

(Verse 1) I got a call from an angel
About a baby born today
He's lyin' all in a manger,
And there's a star to guide me all of the way.
I'm gonna shake my camel out o' the sand,
I'm gonna take my camel over the land,
I'm gonna make my camel understand
We gotta go!

(Verse 2) I got food for the journey
And water for a week;
I'm in the mood to be early,
'Cos I don't wanna miss his party treat.
We're gonna find that lowly cattle shed,
We're gonna dance all night beside his bed,
So just you take good care of what I said,
We gotta go!

(Chorus) We gotta go, camel,
That's what the angel said;
We do the soft shoe shuffle through the shiftin' sand
'Till we find his manger bed.
So don't be slow, camel,
Follow the distant light!
I'm gonna take that baby all o' my love,
An' I wanna get there tonight!

(Verse 3) Travelling through the night,
Holding my camel tight,
Knowing the wonder of all that I've heard,
Born for me an' you,
Can it be really true?
Keeping the secret is gonna be hard!
I'm gonna meet the people in the story today,
I know what's gonna happen but I shouldn't say:
When the angel claps his wings so bright
The shepherds on the hill get an awful fright - Oooh!

(Verse 4) I bet them Wise Men are gonna surprise 'em
With their incense, myrrh and gold;
We'll gather around and we won't make a sound
As we shelter from the cold.
I wanna front seat with a fabulous view,
An' a place in the circle for my camel, too,
And if that boy should dare to cry,
We'll sing a lullaby.....

(Verse 5) As we go ridin' the dunes
You'll hear me hummin' the tunes
Of all the songs I want to sing,
With hope on my back, a smile in my sack,
And all my joy for the baby King,
I'm gonna keep my camel walkin' tall,
She's gonna lead me to that Holy Stall,
I wanna meet that Saviour of us all,
We gotta go!

(Chorus) We gotta go, camel,
That's what the angel said;
We do the soft shoe shuffle through the shiftin' sand
'Till we find his manger bed.
So don't be slow, camel,
Follow the distant light!
I'm gonna take that baby all o' my love,
An' I wanna get there tonight!

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Gotta Go, Camel

from "Three Christmas Camels"




4
mf
1.I got a call from an an - gel a-bout a
mf
1.I got a call from an an - gel a-bout a
doo-bee- doo! Pom-pom-pom! Pom, pom, pom, pom,
doo-bee-doo! Pom-pom pom - pom! Pom - pom, pom - pom,
8
ba-by born to day, He's ly-in' all in a man - ger, and there's a
ba-by born to day, He's ly-in' all in a man - ger, and there's a
pom, pom, doo-bee-doo - doo, pom! Pom, pom, pom, pom,
pom - pom, doo - oo! Pom - pom, pom - pom,


12
star to guide me all of the way, I'm gon-nashake my cam-el out-o' the sand, I'm gon-na
star to guide me all of the way, I'm gon-nashake my cam-el out-o' the sand, I'm gon-na
pom, pom, pom-pa-dom pom, pom! Shake my cam-el out-o' the sand,
pom - pom, doo - oo! Pom - pom, pom - pom - pom,
16
take my cam-el ov-er the land, I'm gon-na make my cam-el un-der stand we got-ta
take my cam-el ov-er the land, I'm gon-na make my cam-el un-der stand we got-ta
take my cam-el ov-er the land, make my cam-el un-der stand we got-ta
pom - pom - mon - pom - pom, make my cam-el un- der-stand, we got-ta


20
go! 2.I got food for the jour - ney, and
go! 2.I got food for the jour - ney, and
go! Choo, choo, choo! Doo, doo, food for the jour - ney!
go! Choo, choo, choo! Doo - oo, doo - oo,


24
wa-ter for a week; I'm in the mood to be ear - ly, 'cos I
wa-ter for a week; I'm in the mood to be ear - ly, 'cos I
Doo - doo - doo! Pom! Doo, doo, doo, 'cos I
doo - oo! and wa-ter-for me! Pom! Doo - oo, doo - oo! I


28
don't wan-na miss his par - ty treat!_ We're gon-na find that low - ly
don't wan-na miss his par - ty treat! W're gon-na find that low - ly
don't wan-na miss his par - ty treat! Pom! Pom - pom,
don't wan-na miss his par - ty treat! Pom! Pom - pom -
31
cat - tle shed, We're gon-na dance all night be - side_ his bed,_ so just you
cat - tle shed, We're gon-na dance all night be - side_ his bed, so just you
cat - tle shed. Pom - pom - pom! Be - side his bed, just
pom - pom - pom - pom - pom - pom - pom! Just


34
(Chorus)
take good care of what I___ said: We got-ta go! Choo! Choo! Choo! We got-ta
(Chorus)
take good care of what I___ said: We got-ta go! Choo! Choo! Choo! We got-ta
(Chorus)
take good care of what I___ said: We got-ta go! Choo! Choo! Choo! We got-ta
(Chorus)
take good care of what I___ said: We got-ta go! We got-ta
38
go, cam- el! That's what the an - gel said! We do the
go, cam- el! That's what the an - gel said! We do the
go, cam- el! Pom, pom, pom-pom- pom
go,___ cam- el, cam- el!` Pom, pom, pom-pom- pom!


42
soft shoe shuf fle through the shift- in' sand till we find his man ger bed!
soft shoe shuf fle through the shift- in' sand till we find his man ger bed!
Ah
Ah
Ah
Ah
45
So don't be slow, cam - el! Fol low the dis-tant
So don't be slow, cam - el! Fol low the dis-tant
So don't be slow, cam - el! Fol low the dis tant
Ho - ho - ho - ho - ho! cam- el, cam- el! Ah!


49
light! I'm gon-na take that ba-by all o' my love, an' I wan-na get there to night!
light! I'm gon-na take that ba-by all o' my love, an' I wan-na get there to night!
light! I'm gon na take that ba by all o' my love, an' I wan na get there to night!
Pom-pom-pom! Ah Ah Ah
53
3.Trav-ell-ing through the night, hold-ing my cam - el tight,
3.Ah Ah
3.Ah
Pom-pom! 3.Ah!


56
know-ing the won der_ of all that I've heard, Born for me_ an' you! Can it be real-ly true?
Ah Ah Ah
ah! Ah!
Ah! Ah!
60
Keep-in' the se - cret_ is gon-na be hard! I'm gon-na meet the peo-ple in the
Ah Ah
Ah!
Ah! Ah!


63
stor-y to day, I know what's gon na hap-pen but I should n't say! When the
Ah
Ah!
Ah! When the
66
(Clap!)
an - gel claps his wings so bright...
(Clap!)
Ah.
(Clap!)
...the shep-herds on the hill get an
(Clap!)
an - gel claps his wings so bright... ...the shep-herds on the hill get an


69
p
Ooh! 4. I bet them Wise Men are gon-na sur prise 'em with their
p
Ooh! 4. I bet them Wise Men are gon-na sur prise 'em with their
p
aw- ful fright! Ooh! 4.Pom, pom, pom, pom,
p
aw- ful fright! Ooh! 4.Pom, pom pom pom,
p
72
in- cense, myrrh and gold; We'll gath-er a- round, an' we
in- cense, myrrh and gold; We'll ga-ther a- round, an' we
With their myrrh and gold; Pom! Ah Ah
With their myrrh and gold; Pom! Ah - ah -


75
won't make a sound as we shel - ter from the cold; I
won't make a sound as we shel - ter, an' I wan- na, wan na, wan- na, wan- na,
Ah as we shel - ter, an' I wan- na, I wan- na, I
ah - ah - ah - ah! I wan- na, I wan- na,
78
f
wan- na front seat with a fab - u - lous view...
f
wan- na front seat with a fab - u - lous view...
f
wan- na front seat with a fab - u - lous view, an' a place in the cir - cle for my
f
wan- na, a seat, a fab - u - lous view, an' a place in the cir - cle for my
f


81
an' if that boy should dare to cry, We'll sing a lul - la -
an' if that boy should dare to cry, We'll sing a lul - la -
cam-el too, yeah? Ah We'll sing a
cam-el too, yeah? Ah We'll sing a


(No swung rhythm for two bars)
85
by...
5.As we go
(No swung rhythm for this bar)
(Resume swung rhythm)
by,
sing a lul - la - by.
lul - la - by.
(No swung rhythm for this bar)
(Resume swung rhythm)
lul - la - by.
(No swung rhythm for two bars)
(Resume swung rhythm)

88

mf

rid - in' the dunes, you'll hear me hum-min' the tunes of all the songs I want to sing;

mf

5.Doo - bee doo doo, Doo-bee-doo doo - bee - doo, Barp! Barp!

mf

mf

5.Barp - barp! Barp- barp! Barp! Barp!

5.Doo - doo, doo - doo. Barp! Barp!

mf

91

With hope on my back, a smile in my sack, an'

Bee-doo-bee-doo-bee-doo! Barp! Barp! an'

Bee-doo ah! Pom, pom! Barp! Pom, pom! Barp!

Bee-doo-bee-doo-bee-doo! Pom, pom! Barp! Pom, pom! Barp!


94
all my joy for the ba - by King! I'm gon-na keep my cam el walk - in'__ tall, she's gon-na
all my joy for the ba - by King! I'm gon-na keep my cam-el walk in'__ tall, she's gon-na
all my joy for the ba - by King! keep my cam el walk - in'__ tall, she'll
all my joy for the ba - by King! keep my cam-el walk - in'__ tall! she'll
98
lead me to that Ho-ly__ stall, I wan-na meet that Sav-iour of us__ all, we got-ta
lead me to that Ho-ly__ stall, I wan-na meet that Sav-iour of us__ all, we got-ta
lead me to that Ho-ly__ stall! And meet that Sav-iour of us__ all, we got-ta
lead me to that Ho-ly__ stall! And meet that Sav-iour of us__ all, we got-ta


102
(Chorus)
go! We got-ta go woh-woh-woh- woh, cam - el!
(Chorus)
go! We got-ta go woh-woh - woh, cam- el!
go! Choo! Choo choo! Go woh - woh! cam- el!
go! Choo! Choo- choo! Go - - woh! cam- el, cam- el!`
106
That's what the an - gel said! We do the soft shoe shuf - fle through the
That's what he said! We do the soft shoo - shoo-bee - doo - bee
That's what he said! The shoo-bee-doo ah!_ The
That's what the an - gel said! We do the shoo-bee-doo ah!_ The


109
shift - in' sand till we find his man ger bed, so don't be slow
doo - bee - doo ah, till we find his man ger bed, so don't be slow
shoo-bee - doo ah, till we find his bed, so don't be
shoo-bee - doo ah, till we find his bed, so don't be
112
woh - woh-woh- woh, cam - el! Fol- low the dis - tant
- woh - woh-woh- woh, cam - el!
slow woh - woh-woh- woh, cam - el! Cam el!
slow-woh woh-woh- woh, cam - el! Cam-el!


115
light! I'm gon-na take that ba - by all o' my love, Ah
Fol-low the light! Ah I'm gon-na take that ba - by
Fol-low the light! Ah - - - - -
Fol-low the light! Ah
119
I'm gon-na take that ba - by all o my love, an' I
all o' my love, I'm gon-na take that ba - by all o' my love, an' I
ah! I'm gon-na take that ba - by all o' my love, an' I
I'm gon-na take that ba - by all o' my love, an' I
(L.H.)
(L.H.)


122
f
wan - na get there to - night!
Oh yeah!
f
wan - na get there to - night!
Oh yeah!
f
wan -na get there to - night!
Oh yeah!
f
wan -na get there to - night!
Oh yeah!