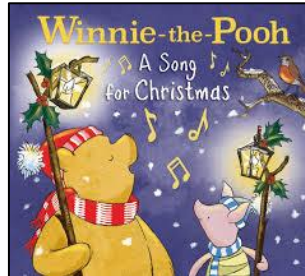


A Christmas Sound Story

Winnie-the-Pooh: A Song for Christmas, by Egmont Publishing UK Full Text



As soon as Pooh woke up on Christmas Eve and pressed his nose against the frosty glass, he knew that it was going to be a HUMMING sort of day.

Snow was piled up against the windows and against his door. With a HEAVE and a HO he pushed the door open and padded out into the snowy forest.
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He went to call on his good friend Piglet, who was very excited indeed to go on a snowy, HUMMY adventure.

But they hadn't gone far when....with an "OHH!"...

Piglet completely disappeared.

Pooh looked left and Pooh looked right.

"Piglet must have gone home," he sighed to himself.

"POOH, HELP!" came the muffled voice of Piglet, somewhere near his toes.

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Once Piglet had been PULLED out of the hole and had SHAKEN the snow from his ears, they CLIMBED up to a safer place.

"How does the hum go?" asked Piglet.

"Well it doesn't really go yet," explained Pooh.

'It starts and then stops before it's got to the HUMMY part. It's more of a song," he continued, wisely, "but with no tune."

"Oh I see," said Piglet, who didn't.

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But as they sat there with the wind WHIPPING round them, the HUM that had become a SONG did start to go and it went something like this:

"Oh the SNOW is very SNOWY,
and the WIND is very blowy,
And BEAR is very KNOWY
That his TUMMY has a RUMBLE,
And that rumble in his TUMBLE,
Can only mean ONE thing
And so we SING.....and SING...and SING..."
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"But why are we singing?" interrupted Piglet.

"For the RUMBLE," replied Pooh.

"Haven't you ever heard of SINGING FOR YOUR SUPPER? Come along."

Piglet wasn't sure

he had, but it was rather COLD for a very small animal so he happily followed Pooh into the WARM to practice the hummy song.

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Together they sang the SONG with
POOH singing HIGH and Piglet singing LOW and then with
POOH singing LOW and PIGLET singing HIGH.

"And now it's time to call on our friends and sing for them. Maybe they'll even have a little smackerel of something," Pooh announced.

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First they called on Kanga, Roo and BOUNCY Tigger. There wasn't any food for them to eat, but they sang their song anyway.

Roo wanted to join in.

"You and Tigger can BANG THINGS," said Pooh, and so they did.

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Much to Pooh's disappointment there wasn't any food at Rabbit's either, and what with Tigger's BOUNCING and all the BANGING, the SONG didn't go very well at all.

"This will never do," announced Rabbit.

"WHAT YOU NEED IS ORDER."

And with that, he lined the animals up with the larger ones at the back and the smaller ones at the front.

"MUCH BETTER," he said, and he marched them all to Owl's tree.

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"Who's there?" asked Owl.

"US," said Pooh. "AND WE'RE HUNGRY," he added.

"Well it can't be 'US'," said Owl, " because I'M HERE, finishing the last bite of my supper.

But Owl was kind enough to lend them candles to light their way and he agreed to join them as they went to call on Eeyore.

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Eeyore was in his usual gloomy place and, as they began their song, he let out a LONG, LOW, SORROWFUL MOAN.

"OOOOHHHH, rumbles indeed, you don't need to tell me about those," he groaned. "With all this snow, I haven't had a BITE to eat since Tuesday....or was it Thursday- they're all the same to me."

This reminded everyone just how HUNGRY in the TUMMY and cold in the toes they were.

But Pooh knew just the place to go...

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Everyone sang as they walked and, hearing them coming, Christopher Robin already had his door open when they arrived.

"COME IN!" he called. "There's a WARM FIRE and PLENTY to EAT."

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And so there was... There was one BIG cake, lots of little cakes and tasty spiced pies.

Once they had all eaten more than was sensible, they settled around the fire and sang the song again for good luck.

Accompanied by Roo's BANGING and Eeyore's MELODIC MOANS, it really was the PERFECT SONG for Christmas.

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"I was right about it being a HUMMING sort of day," yawned Pooh that night as he tucked himself into his cosy bed.

"But hums are tricky things and they often need GOOD FRIENDS to make them just right. Honey helps too," he added thoughtfully and that night his dreams were full of it!