

SIR 310 Christmas Day (Mary's Boy Child)

Release Date: (vinyl) 1989 / 11, Re-Released 2002 / 10 (MP3) – 2002 / 10

vocal by: Stefan Sidholm, Ingvar Pettersson, Robert Björk, Al Stevens and Paul Bristow

Singing Call PLUS

Original artist: Harry Belafonte / Boney M

Hanhurst's Best Seller listing
(November 1989) – unplaced
(October 2002) – No.9

ORIGINAL MUSIC DETAILS: WRITER: Jester Harrison
PUBLISHER: Bourne Co.

Harry Belafonte has been a successful singer since the 1950s. He has won many awards for his music and is well known and much loved. He has always been outspoken and was extremely active in the civil rights struggles in the U.S. during the 1960s. This song is one of his best known and was “covered” by Boney M – with great success.

The intention here was to give this tune a “Jamaican” sound – hopefully, you can hear that! The vocal side features the five “staff callers” of the original Sting Records company – as featured from 1987 to 1994; recording the vocals took several months and occurred in turn as each of the callers visited the Music Mill studios, in Kumla, Sweden, in order to record their vocals for the other tunes that they had recorded. Our first Christmas tune and still popular enough to maintain regular sales!

Additional Lyrics:

Long time ago in Bethlehem
So the Holy Bible say
Mary's boy child, Jesus Christ
Was born on Christmas day

Hark, now hear the angels sing
A newborn King today
And man will live forevermore
Because of Christmas day

Trumpets sound and angels sing
Listen to what they say
That man will live forevermore
Because of Christmas day

While shepherds watched their flocks by night
They saw a bright new shining star
They heard a choir sing a song
The music seemed to come from afar

Now, Joseph and his wife, Mary
Come to Bethlehem that night
They found no place to bear her child
Not a single room was in sight

By and by, they find a little nook
In a stable all forlorn
And in a manger cold and dark
Mary's little Boy was born!

Where, When and Who produced the music:

In 1986, Bengt “Bula” Ericsson, from Katrineholm in Sweden, joined the Sting team. Ingvar Pettersson and Stefan Sidholm asked Bula to assist them with the production of the second batch of tunes and he remained an essential part of the Sting and Snow production-process for many years.

As a part of Bula's involvement with Sting and Snow, Bula set-up some music sessions, to “try out” other groups and investigate ways to expand the repertoire of the company.

The musicians who feature on this recording were some of those that Bula had auditioned, who seemed particularly appropriate for this type of song.

We will always be indebted to Bula for all that he did to help the labels grow; thanks Bula!

Bula is now part owner of Marble Records and is still very active in producing Square Dance music.