

I'll Be Home for Christmas
TTBB choir, a cappella
CANTUS-010.1

Walter Kent, arr. Jo Goldsmith-Eteson

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I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

TTBB choir, a cappella

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Text

by Kim Gannon

I'll be home for Christmas
You can plan on me
Please have snow, and mistletoe
and presents on the tree

Christmas Eve, you'll find me
Where the lovelight gleams
I'll be home for Christmas
if only in my dreams

From the Composer

Christmas is my absolute favourite time of year. I love everything about it, especially the music. Bing Crosby's influence on Christmas music is massive, through the songs he sang and the feelings he created in those who love to hear his voice again each year at this magical time. My setting of this absolute Christmas classic is deeply indulgent, particularly the supporting harmonies to the melody, perhaps reminiscent of a properly made eggnog or a traditional English Christmas pudding.

There is flexibility in the setting for the lead to be sung as a solo or combination of voices, and the tempo/rubato should very much be up to personal interpretation. The group/choir should follow its instinct for what works best for them in terms of pacing, dynamics and overall performance. The arrangement should hopefully do exactly what Christmas does in bringing everyone together.

Biography

Jo was musical director of Grammy® Award-winning vocal group, The Swingles, touring and performing on the world's most famous stages for 18 years. Her arrangements for the group won several CARAs (Contemporary A Cappella Recording Awards).

As a writer and vocal arranger, Jo has written for *Palm Royale* (Apple TV+), *The Bads of Bollywood* (Netflix), *Dhurandhar* and *Dhurandhar: The Revenge* (Netflix), and *Downsizing* (Paramount+).

Jo has been a session singer for 20+ years, providing vocals for over 100 feature films, including the *Harry Potter*, *The Hunger Games*, *Marvel* and *DC* franchises. She has sung on TV shows, commercials and video games. She is the solo voice in the *DreamWorks* logo animation (2022-2026), the final scenes of *Wonder Woman 1984*, and several scenes in the animated film, *David*. She founded her own agency, Infinite Vocals, in 2025, providing clients with custom arrangements and session vocals and is always up for a cheeky martini in her spare time.

CANTUS-010.1

for Cantus

I'll Be Home for Christmas

TTBB choir, a cappella

James Kimball "Kim" Gannon (1900-1974)

Walter Kent (1911-1994)

arr. Jo Goldsmith-Eteson (b. 1984)

con rubato ♩ = 105

The musical score is arranged for a vocal ensemble and piano. It consists of five staves. The vocal parts are Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Baritone, and Bass, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The piano part is for rehearsal only, with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a key signature of two flats. The tempo is marked 'con rubato' with a quarter note equal to 105 beats per minute. The music is in 4/4 time. The vocal parts feature 'Hmm' markings under the notes, indicating humming. The piano part provides harmonic support with chords and melodic lines. A large watermark 'Cantus VOCAL ENSEMBLE' is overlaid on the score.

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I'll Be Home for Christmas

9 *mf* rit..... a tempo

T.1 Hoo Hoo

T.2 *mf* Hoo Hoo

Bar. *mf* Hoo Hoo

B. *mf* Hoo Hoo

Pno

17 Opt. solo *mp*

T.1 I'll be home for Christ - mas You can count on me

T.2 *mp* Ho(me) mm ooh

Bar. *mp* Ho(me) mm ooh

B. *mp* Ho(me) mm ooh

Pno

I'll Be Home for Christmas

25

T.1 Please have snow, and mist - le - toe and pres - ents by the

T.2 snow and mist - le - toe pres - ents by the

Bar. snow and mist - le - toe pres - ents by the

B. snow and mist - le - toe pres - ents by the

Pno

31

T.1 tree Christ - mas eve, you'll find me where the

T.2 tree by the tree ooh, you'll find me where the love

Bar. tree by the tree ooh, you'll find me where the love

B. tree by the tree the tree ooh, you'll find me where the love the

Pno

I'll Be Home for Christmas

38 *mf*

T.1 love light gleams I'll be home for Christ - mas if

T.2 love ooh I'll be home for Christ - mas

Bar. love ooh I'll be home for Christ - mas

B. love ooh I'll be home for Christ - mas

Pno

45 *accel.* *Tutti*

T.1 on - ly in my dreams Ooh

T.2 on - ly in my dreams ooh

Bar. on - ly in my dreams ooh

B. on - ly in my dreams ooh

Pno

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I'll Be Home for Christmas

rit.....

50

T.1 *p dolce*
I'll be home for Christ -

T.2 *p dolce*
I'll be home for Christ -

Bar. *p dolce*
I'll be home for Christ -

B. *p dolce*
I'll be home for Christ -

Pno

56

Opt. solo

T.1 *rit.....*
- mas if on - ly in my _____ dreams. _____

T.2
- mas on - ly in my dreams *in my dreams. _____

Bar.
- mas on - ly in my dreams *in my dreams. _____

B.
- mas on - ly in my dreams *in my dreams. _____

Pno

*last three lyrics may be "hmm" or "ooh"



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