Jesus Jesus Rest Your Head
Traditional Appalachian Carol
Arranged by Katie Kring
ABOUT THIS PIECE

“Jesus, Jesus Rest Your Head” is a gorgeous and underappreciated traditional Appalachian Christmas Carol. The openness of the Appalachian harmonic tradition and the tunefully melodies of the American folk tradition lend themselves so beautifully to choral singing. When I arranged this piece for choir, I attempted to capture the mystery and uncertainty of that first Christmas, along with the joy and majesty, while showcasing the true beauty of this lovely carol.

Jesus, Jesus, rest your head.  
You have got a manger bed.  
All the evil folk on earth  
Sleep in feathers at their birth.  
Jesus, Jesus, rest your head.  
You have got a manger bed.

Have you heard about our Jesus?  
Have you heard about his fate?  
How his mother came to the stable  
On that Christmas Eve so late?  
Winds were blowing, cows were lowing,  
Stars were glowing, glowing, glowing.

To the manger came the Wise Men.  
Bringing gifts so rich and rare  
To the father and the mother,  
And the blessed infant there.  
Shepherds left their fields and flocks  
And sat beside the ass and ox.

Jesus, Jesus, rest your head.  
You have got a manger bed.  
All the evil folk on earth  
Sleep in feathers at their birth.  
Jesus, Jesus, rest your head.  
You have got a manger bed.

Listen Here
Jesus Jesus Rest Your Head

SATB divisi

Traditional Appalachian Carol
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Freely, Tenderly \( \frac{}{96} \)

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{Soprano} \\
\text{Alto} \\
\text{Tenor} \\
\text{Bass} \\
\text{Piano}
\end{array}
\]

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Perusal Score Only
All the evil folks on earth sleep in feathers at their birth.

Jesus Jesus rest your head you have got a manger bed.
Have you heard about our Jesus? Have you heard about his fate? How his mother_

Ooh

came to the stable. On that Christmas Eve so late? Winds were blowing. Cows were lowing.

Winds were blowing. Cows were lowing.

Jesus Jesus Rest Your Head
Jesus Jesus Rest Your Head

Stars were glowing, glowing, glowing. Jesus Jesus rest your head

you have got a manger bed

To the manger came the Wise Men.

you have got a manger bed

Ah

you have got a manger bed

Ah

you have got a manger bed

Ah
Jesus Jesus Rest Your Head

rest your head you have got a man-ger bed
rest your head you have got a man-ger bed

Ah

you have got a man-ger bed Jesus Jesus rest your head
you have got a man-ger bed Jesus Jesus rest your head

manager bed you have got a man-ger bed Jesus Jesus rest your head

you have got a man-ger bed Jesus Jesus rest your head
Jesus Jesus Rest Your Head

All the evil
you have got a manger bed

All the evil
you have got a manger bed

All the evil
you have got a manger bed

All the evil
you have got a manger bed

Jesus Jesus

Folks on earth sleep in feathers at their birth.

Folks on earth sleep in feathers at their birth.

Folks on earth sleep in feathers at their birth.

Folks on earth sleep in feathers at their birth.

Jesus Jesus

Jesus Jesus

Sleep in feathers

Sleep in feathers

Sleep in feathers

Sleep in feathers

Jesus Jesus

Jesus Jesus

Jesus Jesus Rest Your Head

rest your head____ you have got a man - ger bed.

rest your head____ you have got a man - ger bed.

rest your head____ you have got a man - ger bed.

rest your head____ you have got a man - ger bed.

you have got a man - ger bed.

you have got a man - ger bed.

you have got a man - ger bed.

you have got a man - ger bed.
ABOUT THE COMPOSER
Katie Kring is a choral composer, writer-of-musicals, and baker based in Springfield, MO.

Katie is a prolific choral composer and a passionate advocate for writing good parts for altos. Her piece “The Snow is Deep on the Ground,” (text by Kenneth Patchen), was published by Walton Music in 2015, and is now performed internationally.

Katie has been commissioned to write numerous works, including “Dreams” and “I See You” (April 2019) for the Springfield Chamber Chorus, where she has served as Composer-In-Residence.

In 2015, she was commissioned by St. John’s Episcopal Church in Springfield, MO to create a new choral setting of the sung Compline service for men’s choir. Gerrit Scheepers’ Brooklyn Choral Artists commissioned her compositions “At the Hour of Closing” and “Land of Rest” which premiered in Pretoria, South Africa in September 2018.

Katie’s musical theatre works include PEARL (Goodspeed Musicals, CT, 2007), ONWARD (with J. Oconer Navarro, 59E59, New York City, 2009), FARMERS MARKET THE MUSICAL (with Rob Hartmann, Fairmont, WV, 2013), IN THE SWIM and THINK BIG (with Rob Hartmann, Monterey Bay Aquarium, CA, 2013 & 2014), and KELLY THE DESTROYER VS THE SPRINGFIELD COBRAS (with Rob Hartmann, Spokane, WA, 2015 and Springfield, MO, 2019).

Katie is also the owner of B+B Boulangerie & Bakery and Lead Instructor of KatieMade Baking & Cooking School. She received her MFA in Musical Theatre Writing at NYU and her BFA in music at the University of Michigan.

www.katiekring.com
Katie Kring Choral Catalog

At the Hour of Closing (SATB, String Quartet, and Mezzo-Soprano Solo) – text by Moshe Ibn Ezra, trans. Peter Cole
Land of Rest (SATB with 2 Violins) – text and arr. Kring
Hartstaal (SATB with Baritone Solo) – Afrikaans text by Gerrit Scheepers
I See You (SATB divisi) – text by Ethan D. Bryan
Dreams (SATB divisi) – text by Ethan D. Bryan
Sleep (SATB) – text by Steven Smallwood

SEA SONGS
The Sea-Hold (SATB or TTBB) – text by Carl Sandburg
Sea-Heroes (SATB or TTBB) – text by H.D.
Morning Fair (SATB or TTBB) – text by Heidi Heilig
Look Out Me Hearties (TTBB) – text by Katie Kring

Magnificat (SATB or TTBB) – traditional English text
Sub Tuum Praesidium (SATB) – traditional Latin text
Phos Hilaron (SATB) – traditional Greek text
Compline (TTBB) – full service text from the Book of Common Prayer

Christmas & Winter
The Snow is Deep on the Ground (SATB divisi) – text by Kenneth Patchen
Jesus Jesus Rest Your Head (SATB divisi) – traditional Appalachian text
A Winter’s Night (SATB with Solos) – text by Sara Teasdale
Bring the Torch Jeanette Isabella (SSATTB) – Traditional carol
I Wonder as I Wander (SATB divisi) – traditional Appalachian text

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