

O Dark Was the Night
Anonymous, before 1917.
Benn Trevaldwyn.

O dark was the night and cold blew the wind,
But Joseph and Mary no shelter could find;
In all the fair city of Bethlehem,
In cottage or inn was no room for them!

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis,
Gloria in excelsis,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

But in a poor stable their couch was made,
And low in a manger the Babe was laid.
O fair was the Child, the mother how fair!
But only the oxen stood waiting there!

Refrain

But out on the hills was a wondrous light,
And heavenly music entranced the night;
And beasts of the field were roused in their lair
By the sound of voices and harps in the air.

Refrain

And shepherds awatching their flocks by night
Espied in the heavens a marvelous sight;
Of angels and spirits a mighty throng.
For joy and great gladness singing this song:

Refrain

O come then, ye faithful, ye men of good will,
Let joy and thanksgiving every heart fill;
Tell out the glad tidings that Jesus has come,
To open the way to the heavenly home.

Refrain