Camilla the Camel
by Ralph McTell

Camilla she was very small but she was very strong
She could walk as far as the other camels all day long
'Please let me carry a load', but her masters all said 'No,
Oh little one, you're much too small and there's so far to go
Not now, but soon, not now, but soon'.
The only words she ever heard under the desert moon.

'Couldn't I carry a little load, what do I have to do,
I wish there was a way for me to prove I'm ready to you,
I know I am the smallest and I don't want to be a grump
But this business of me having to wait is giving me the hump'.
'Not now, but soon, not now, but soon,
The only words I ever hear under the desert moon.'

One day her masters fell asleep and they wandered from the road
The camels slept for they were tired from carrying their load
So Camilla unrolled some silk like a billowing rainbow sail
And under the desert moon she trudged back onto the trail
'And if my masters follow the silk they'll get back to the road
And then perhaps for my reward they'll let me carry a load
Not now, but soon, not now, but soon.'
The only words she ever heard under the desert moon.

Well the next day when they found her, her masters were so pleased
'Oh little one, you helped us all and we are all agreed
You shall lead us onward and you shall follow that star
And you shall carry our gifts of Gold and Frankincense and Myrrh
Not now, but soon, not now, but soon
Lead the Three Wise Men to Bethlehem, under the desert moon.'