

Send Out the Year

words by ELLIOTT WHITEHURST

music by TREBUCHET

Harmonious melancholy (♩ = 120)

mf *Bell*
Am F G Am
Steel str. ac. gtr.

Am F G Am

Am F
mp It's cold_ out - side,
Dist. Wurly

C G
and ev-'ry-thing is white._ I put on my

Am F C

coat_ To head out alone._

G Am F G Am

mf

Am F G Am

Am F C

mp The road is long and covered in snow.

Long

G Am F

i've walked it be - fore, Ev - 'ry home lit up,

Ev - 'ry home

C G

and all so warm.

G Am C/E F G Am

mf Christ - mas time is here. Hang the lights

1. C G 2. C G

bringing good cheer. bringing good cheer.

Am F G Am

Am F G Am

Am F C

I'm count-ing down _____ the days _____ till I _____ come home

Down _____ the days _____ till I _____ come home

G Am

_____ and not be a - lone, _____ Oh _____

F C G

and not _____ be a - lone. _____

G Am C/E F G Am

Christ - mas _____ time is here. _____

Hang the lights
Sing a song,

2nd x

1. C G | 2. C G

bringing good _____ cheer. _____ send out the _____ year. _____

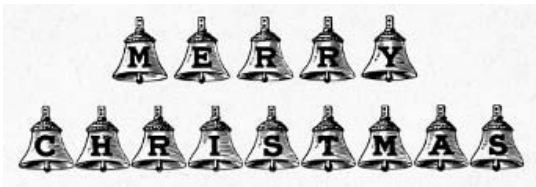
Christmas in my family has always been structured so that Christmas Eve is spent at our Dad's house and Christmas day is at Mom's. Until probably sometime around the passing of my older brother Logan, we would gather up the cousins before doing immediate family stuff on Christmas Eve. We would all exchange gifts if we had them and it was one of the only times in the year that we would all reliably be in the same place at the same time.



In 2002, after dedicating much of his time and efforts to music, Logan didn't have much money to spend on gifts for us. It was clear that he was embarrassed by being unable to give us all "stuff" that year, and he felt that his solution would be underwhelming to us all, apologizing before we even knew what he'd done.

We went through our standard practice of exchanging gifts and any time someone handed Logan a gift he would assure them that he had something for them but it "wasn't anything great".

After we'd all opened one another's gifts, Logan asked us all to come into the TV room where he put a CD into the 5 disc changer that my Dad had.



*The first song that played was titled "Eliott, Eliott".
It was a song written for me about an entire planet of Eliotts where
every animal said "Eliott" and everything was called "Eliott".
One of my most prevalent "Big Brother" memories of Logan was
star gazing one night out in the high school field when I probably
wasn't much older than 6. He would have been about 12
and trying to explain the idea of an infinite universe to me.
He said "If the Universe does really expand forever,
there's no reason to believe that there isn't
an entire planet of Eliotts out there...
there's no reason to think that there isn't
an infinite number of planets full of Eliotts, all of them named "Eliott".
Logan had taken that lasting memory
that only he and I shared and turned it into a song just for me.*

*The songs continued on as we all listened.
There was a song each for Alex, Emily, Eric, Julie, Aron, Tess, and me.
All of the songs held deep personal meaning for each of us and
I really think that the song written for Tess is one of the most
beautiful songs he ever wrote. Each song was as funny, thoughtful,
and pretty as any of the songs he'd written prior.
He was so embarrassed that he was unable to give us "things"
while none of us could believe the amount of thought and time
he'd dedicated to each one of us in writing and recording these songs.
He proceeded to hand us each a CD containing all 7 songs,
each CD with unique artwork on the CD itself
and the jewel case to match our own song.
I don't think any of us could really believe what he'd done in that moment.*

*In 2006 my big brother Logan died of brain cancer.
He had such an undeniably unique brain and
he was kind enough to share a small portion of it with all of us
so personally that year.
I'm certain that if you were to ask any one of us
of the most meaningful and impactful gifts that we've ever received,
those songs from the Christmas of 2002 would be
right at the top of all of our lists.*

*Music is the greatest gift.
Thank you for singing these songs with each other and with us.*