The Slaughterhouse Carol

Words by Godfrey Yeomans

[V.1]
We walked to Yardley for Christmas Day,
Four kids and Mum with the pram.
Six miles seemed such a long, long way,
To visit Grampy and Gran.

[V.2]
On Christmas Morn in the slaughterhouse
They took no day of rest.
The poleaxe blow, and the crimson flow,
It caused us no distress.

[V.3]
We helped them haul up the carcasses,
We watched them butcher and skin.
Saw piggies floating in the scalding tub
To loosen hair from skin.

[V.4]
Each child was given a cattle hoof
To scrape off all the hair.
The boiling water kept us warm
In that cold wintery air.

[V.5]
No party games, no paper hats,
No treats, no barrel of beer.
The bells rang out on Christmas Day,
But we felt little cheer.