

'T WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

(TUNNEL VERSION)

by Anonymous

*'Twas the night before Christmas
And all through the tunnels
Not a voice could be heard
Not even a mumble*

*The stockings were hung in caverns with care
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there
The dwellers were nestled all snug in their beds
While visions of Christmas danced in their heads*

*With Mary in her 'kerchief, and Father, his cap
They all settled down for a long winter's nap
When down through the pipes there arose such a clatter
Pascal sprang from his bed to see what was the matter*

*Away to the Pipe chamber he flew like a flash
He looked like a sprinter in a fifty yard dash
The light of the tunnels shed a soft candle glow
As with Vincent, we raced to the chamber Below*

*Then tinkling of bells of eight tiny reindeer
Filled all the caverns and 'tickled' each ear
A little old driver sat deep in the sleigh
We knew 'twas St. Nick, come to brighten our day*

*More rapid than eagles, these coursers flew gamely
Their little old driver whistled at Jamie
'Now Dasher, take heart and Dancer, be wary
For Prancer and Vixen are feeling quite merry
Hey Comet, see William - He's there in the kitchen
He's getting food for Donner, Cupid and Blitzen.*

*To the top of each chamber! To the top of the falls!
Now dash away! Dash away! Dash away all!
Then down through the tunnels the coursers they flew
With the sleigh full of 'goodies' and St. Nicholas, too.*

*Then in a twinkling, came a sputter, a swoosh
The prancing and pawing of each reindeer hoof
The sleigh made a 'wheelie' and came to the ground
Out jumped St. Nicholas---dishevelled, spell-bound*

*'What place have I come to. No stars and no snow?
'Aha!' Then he said. 'It's the tunnels Below!'
He was dressed all in fur, his outfit quite matchless
For his clothes were embellished with sashes and patches
With a bundle of toys for the tunnel tots' pleasure
And many a treat for the others to treasure.*

*His eyes were a-twinkle (as he looked over Mary)!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry
His droll little mouth smiled at all those Below
His beard looked so tawny in the candlelight's glow*

*The smoke from his pipe encircled his head
(And Father did note - he was 'not' underfed!)*

*His broad face did grin, with a look so benign
And Mouse felt relieved, and said 'Okay, good. Okay, fine!'
His little round belly was a joy to behold
To William it looked like a red jelly mold*

*He was chubby and plump and seemed awed by the sights
of tunnels, and dwellers---on this 'night-of-all-nights'
With a wink of his eye, he looked round at the dwellers
(And noticed that Vincent was a 'most' unique feller!)*

*No one did stir as this jolly elf worked
To fill all the stockings, he seemed most expert
And laying a finger aside of his nose
He nodded to Father, and struck quite a pose*

*He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle
And away they all flew, like a space agency missile
We then heard a tapping come over the pipes.....
'Happy Christmas to all!.....Oh boy! 'Whatta' night!'*