



A little Christmas story

"Big Christmas Concert!" the small angel Gabriel was reading out loud. He just saw the advertisement on Cloud 5 and clapped his hands happily. For weeks already he was practicing on his harp hoping that one day he can play at the yearly Christmas concert. Quickly, he gathered up his angelic robe and rushed to Petrus. "Please, please, let me play on the concert this year", he was pleading: "I was practicing so diligently and would like to play my instrument in the Christmas time sooo much!" Petrus was frowning at him: "Do you think you are already good enough?" he was asking: "The songs we play are not so easy."

Gabriel nodded his head eagerly: "Certainly, I have been learning on the harp a lot every single day!" "Hm..." Petrus thought: "nowadays the people became so demanding. They will not tolerate mistakes. Think twice about if you're good enough already." But Gabriel was sure. He didn't have to think about it again, because he knew how much time he invested in practicing. But because he

was so excited he forgot, that he was only playing scales all day. "Okay", Petrus agreed: "then attend to the rehearsal tomorrow. We meet punctually at 10 o'clock sharp on Cloud 10, but make sure that your harp will be tuned". Very delighted Gabriel was flying up and down, he was so happy that he flew to his home Cloud and took his harp.

Next morning, he was awake very early, because he was so excited. He cleaned and tuned his harp again quickly, and then the big adventure could start. During his approach on Cloud 10 Gabriel already heard the different instruments. Everyone was preparing their instruments for the rehearsal. Gabriel took a seat next to the other strings. When Saint Peter - being the conductor of the orchestra as usual - appeared everybody was silent.

"We start with Oh thou happy, Oh thou holy", Petrus said with his significant voice. He knocked on the music stand three times with his baton and the orchestra began to play.



"Stop, stop", saint Peter said: "Gabriel, you're too fast! Listen to what the others play, please!" Gabriel turned red right away and promised to be more concentrated. The second time, he played a bit slower, because he wanted to be good. "Stop!", Petrus shouted "Gabriel, what are you doing? Now you're too slow! This isn't a good night song! Please listen to the others. We all have to play at the same time."

Gabriel got upset. The first time he was too fast, the second time he was too slow. He didn't think that the orchestra is so hard. The third time he tried to play right and very pointy but this time he was too loud. Petrus admonished: "The harp isn't a solo instrument, you have to play more quietly."

Now Gabriel was upset, he threw his harp to the ground, everything he played was wrong. But he was so worked up for the concert, he was trying to keep his tears away. "Gabriel", Petrus said: "I think it is best if we postpone your first concert to next year." Gabriel looked up to Petrus horrified.

"B-b-but I'll try really hard to make it this year!" he made sure. He was going to pick up his harp quick. But what happened? It was broken, and suddenly he wasn't able to say another word. He felt a hand on his shoulder. Horrified he looked in Angel Michael's friendly face. "I think", Michael said, "the harp isn't the right instrument for you, what do you think if you take the small drum and you'll give the beat for us?" "D-d-do you think this works?" Gabriel raised his eyebrows in disbelief. "But certainly", Michael reassured inquiring at Petrus. "Well, OK" Petrus said "we can at least try" and he gave over the small drum to Gabriel who was very happy and directly took the drum and strapped it on.

And now he could give the beat with his sticks and the orchestra directly began to play. And Gabriel was very happy to play the drum.

With this short Christmas story we want to say „Thank you“ for your cooperation. We wish you a peaceful time before Christmas, happy holidays and a happy New Year 2012.

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