

A CHRISTMAS ABECEDARY

Part One



A Very Happy
Christmas

A

Advent Colander

A long frozen scene.
Through twenty-four little holes,
December days drain.

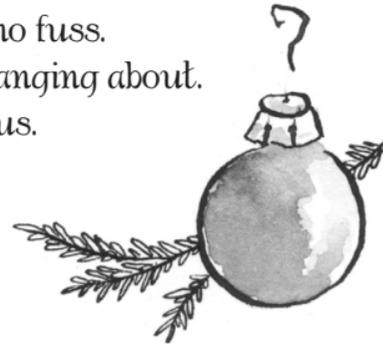
B

Borebles

Or, Nothing to Hang on the Christmas Tree*

We're not the special ones,
In vintage glass or hand-blown glory.
We never catch the light.
We hold no story.

Shatterproof, silver or red
Plain balls - no fuss.
We're just hanging about.
Don't mind us.



*Swedish saying

C

Camels, Nine lessons and

Parked along the aisle, peaceful,
With cloudy breath, their shaggy coats
Filling the cool air with the smells
Of deep red earth and Arabian nights,
Each creature lifts its head to hear
The age-old words resound in the chapel:
The annual service of
Nine Lessons and Camels.



Dinkey

For a scaled-down yule,
A miniature mule.

Envegreens

Noble Fir
Blue Spruce
Close needles
Deep roots

Red Cedar
White Pine
Still green
Unlike mine



Feztive

At Christmas, ,
When you're feeling restive,
Wear a small red hat.
Be feztive.



The Ghist of Christmas Past

By the fireplace it lurks, where
It murmurs, remembering
the year when the turkey
exploded, the pudding
got stuck up the chimney,
and never forgetting
the lights on the fir tree
were all out of tune.

Oh, be not distressed,
Dismayed or downcast -
It's only The Ghist
of Christmases Past.