

# A SPRIG OF CHRISTMAS HOLLY

*Bob Crew*

There was a sprig of holly  
Not feeling very jolly  
And this was quite mysterious  
Because Christmas time is serious.  
Everyone must be jolly,  
Especially the holly.

So the fairy on the Christmas tree  
Said 'Cheer up holly and smile at me,  
For such a smile is neither difficult nor dutiful  
Because everyone agrees that I am very, very beautiful.'

With this the holly could not disagree.  
That the fairy was beautiful was plain to see.  
But the holly did not feel like smiling,  
Even though the fairy was so beguiling.

So the fairy asked the Christmas tree,  
'Why won't holly smile at me?'  
But the Christmas tree just shrugged and said  
That the holly had better be miserable instead.

With this advice the paper chains agreed.  
To make holly jolly would be difficult indeed  
And those who didn't want to laugh and play  
Had better practise Christmas in their own way.

So the fairy danced with the paper chains  
And the Christmas tree had fun and games,  
While the cards sang from the shelves and walls  
And the gloomy holly thought them silly fools.

Then suddenly a cuddly flake of cotton-wool snow  
Invited grumpy old holly under the mistletoe,  
Where it promised to give holly such a kiss  
That it would be absolutely full of bliss.

The others thought this a very good idea  
To fill the holly with Christmas cheer.  
They urged the mistletoe to come at once  
To see if a kiss would work on such a dunce.

The holly tried to run away,  
But the others caught him and made him stay,  
While the snowflake gave holly such a big kiss  
That the candle blushed at the sight of this.

The balloons bounced up and down with joy  
And the yuletide log felt very coy,  
While the cuckoo-clock sang out for all to hear  
That holly had been filled, at last, with Christmas cheer.

The holly did not disagree with this,  
The snowflake's kiss was sheer bliss.  
Skipping and dancing around the room,  
The holly lost its previous gloom.

It kissed and kissed and kissed again,  
First snowflake, then fairy and a paper chain.  
It thought that Christmas was very good indeed  
And that, to be unhappy, there was no need.

“A Sprig of Christmas Holly” © 2005 by Bob Crew