

breath of heaven song lyrics

breath of heaven song lyrics have become a beloved part of contemporary Christian music, resonating deeply with listeners around the world. This song, originally performed by Amy Grant, captures a poignant blend of spiritual longing and maternal vulnerability through its heartfelt lyrics. Understanding the full context, meaning, and impact of the breath of heaven song lyrics can enrich the listening experience, providing insight into its lyrical themes and emotional depth. This article explores the origins, lyrical analysis, and cultural significance of the song, while also presenting the complete lyrics to facilitate a comprehensive appreciation. Additionally, the influence of breath of heaven song lyrics on holiday music and worship settings will be examined. The following sections guide readers through these aspects systematically.

- Origins and Background of Breath of Heaven Song Lyrics
- Complete Breath of Heaven Song Lyrics
- Analysis and Interpretation of the Lyrics
- Thematic Elements and Symbolism
- Influence and Legacy of Breath of Heaven Song Lyrics
- Use of Breath of Heaven Song Lyrics in Worship and Media

Origins and Background of Breath of Heaven Song Lyrics

The breath of heaven song lyrics were written by Chris Eaton and Amy Grant, with Amy Grant also being the original performer. Released in 1992 on Grant's album "Home for Christmas," the song quickly became a staple in Christmas and Christian music repertoires. The lyrics are inspired by the perspective of Mary, the mother of Jesus, expressing her inner turmoil and prayers during the anticipation of Christ's birth. The song's creation was influenced by contemporary Christian themes, blending vulnerability and divine trust in a melodic format that appeals to a broad audience.

Songwriting and Composition

Chris Eaton crafted the lyrics as a poetic narrative from Mary's point of view, portraying the emotional and spiritual weight carried by her. The composition complements the lyrics with a gentle, reflective melody

that enhances the contemplative mood. Amy Grant's vocal delivery further emphasizes the sincerity and intimacy embedded in the breath of heaven song lyrics, making it a memorable and impactful piece.

Historical and Cultural Context

The early 1990s saw a resurgence of contemporary Christian music that sought to blend traditional religious themes with modern musical styles. Breath of heaven song lyrics fit neatly into this movement, offering a fresh perspective on the Christmas story. The song's focus on Mary's human experience adds depth to the conventional nativity narrative, reflecting broader cultural interests in exploring biblical figures from more personal viewpoints.

Complete Breath of Heaven Song Lyrics

Presenting the full breath of heaven song lyrics allows readers to engage directly with the text that has inspired many.

- I have traveled many moonless nights
- Cold and weary with a babe inside
- And I wonder what I've done
- Holy father, you have come
- And chosen me now to carry your son
- I am waiting in a silent prayer
- I am frightened by the load I bear
- In a world as cold as stone
- Should I walk this path alone?
- Be with me now, be with me now
- Breath of heaven, hold me together
- Be forever near me, breath of heaven
- Breath of heaven, lighten my darkness

- Pour over me your holiness, for you are holy
- Breath of heaven
- Do you wonder as you watch my face
- If a wiser one should have had my place?
- But I offer all I am
- For the mercy of your plan
- Help me be strong
- Help me be
- Be with me now, be with me now
- Breath of heaven, hold me together
- Be forever near me, breath of heaven
- Breath of heaven, lighten my darkness
- Pour over me your holiness, for you are holy
- Breath of heaven

Analysis and Interpretation of the Lyrics

The breath of heaven song lyrics articulate a profound emotional and spiritual narrative centered on a mother's faith amid uncertainty. The song's lyrical content explores themes of fear, hope, divine guidance, and acceptance. Through the first-person perspective, listeners gain insight into Mary's internal conflict and reliance on God's strength.

Emotional Expression and Vulnerability

The lyrics vividly express feelings of weariness, fear, and solitude, as seen in lines like "I am frightened by the load I bear" and "Should I walk this path alone?" This vulnerability humanizes Mary, making the spiritual story more relatable. The repeated plea for the "breath of heaven" to hold and strengthen the

singer underscores a universal desire for comfort and support during difficult times.

Spiritual Themes and Divine Relationship

Central to the breath of heaven song lyrics is the relationship between the human and the divine. Phrases such as "Pour over me your holiness, for you are holy" emphasize a yearning for divine presence and sanctification. The song reflects a dialogue between dependence on God's power and the acceptance of a predetermined divine plan.

Thematic Elements and Symbolism

The breath of heaven song lyrics incorporate rich symbolism that enhances the song's theological depth and poetic resonance. These elements contribute to the song's enduring appeal and spiritual significance.

Symbolism of Breath and Life

"Breath of heaven" metaphorically represents the life-giving spirit of God, a source of strength and holiness. Breath symbolizes divine presence that sustains and empowers the individual, especially during times of trial. This theme aligns with biblical references to breath as a symbol of life and spirit.

Light and Darkness Imagery

The lyrics contrast light and darkness, symbolizing hope and despair. The request to "lighten my darkness" suggests a desire for illumination and guidance amid uncertainty. This imagery reinforces the song's narrative of seeking divine clarity and reassurance.

Motherhood and Sacrifice

The song's perspective from Mary highlights themes of maternal sacrifice and courage. The burden of carrying a significant destiny while grappling with fear reflects universal experiences of responsibility and faith. This thematic layer adds emotional complexity to the breath of heaven song lyrics.

- Divine support as a sustaining force
- Human vulnerability and courage
- Interplay of light and darkness

- Motherhood as a metaphor for sacrifice
- Faith in the midst of uncertainty

Influence and Legacy of Breath of Heaven Song Lyrics

Since its release, the breath of heaven song lyrics have had a significant impact on Christian music and holiday traditions. The song has been covered by numerous artists across genres, illustrating its broad resonance. Its lyrical content continues to inspire worshippers and musicians alike.

Impact on Contemporary Christian Music

The song has become a standard in contemporary Christian music repertoires, often performed during the Christmas season. Its lyrical depth and emotional appeal have set a benchmark for storytelling in worship music, influencing subsequent songwriters to explore personal and theological themes with similar sensitivity.

Crossover into Popular Culture

Beyond religious contexts, breath of heaven song lyrics have found a place in popular culture through covers by mainstream artists and inclusion in holiday compilations. This crossover has increased the song's visibility and introduced its spiritual message to a wider audience.

Use of Breath of Heaven Song Lyrics in Worship and Media

The breath of heaven song lyrics are frequently incorporated into worship services, especially during the Advent and Christmas seasons. Their contemplative tone and rich theological content make them suitable for reflective worship settings.

Applications in Worship

Worship leaders often select breath of heaven for its ability to foster introspection and connection with biblical narratives. The song's lyrical focus on divine presence encourages congregational meditation and prayer. It serves as a spiritual tool for expressing trust and seeking guidance.

Representation in Media and Performances

The song has been featured in various media formats, including television holiday specials, concerts, and religious events. Its recurring presence in these venues underscores its cultural significance and continued relevance. Performances often highlight the emotive power of the lyrics, enhancing their impact on audiences.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who originally wrote the song 'Breath of Heaven'?

'Breath of Heaven' was originally written by Amy Grant and Chris Eaton.

What is the main theme of the song 'Breath of Heaven'?

The main theme of 'Breath of Heaven' is a prayer for guidance and strength, reflecting Mary's perspective during the nativity story.

Can you provide the opening lyrics of 'Breath of Heaven'?

The opening lyrics are: 'I have traveled many moonless nights, cold and weary with a babe inside.'

What message does 'Breath of Heaven' convey through its lyrics?

The song conveys a message of seeking divine help and comfort during challenging times, emphasizing faith and hope.

Has 'Breath of Heaven' been covered by other artists?

Yes, 'Breath of Heaven' has been covered by several artists, including Amy Grant herself and other contemporary Christian musicians.

Are the lyrics of 'Breath of Heaven' based on a biblical story?

Yes, the lyrics are inspired by the biblical story of Mary, the mother of Jesus, expressing her feelings and prayers.

What genre does the song 'Breath of Heaven' belong to?

'Breath of Heaven' is primarily classified as a contemporary Christian and Christmas song.

Where can I find the official lyrics for 'Breath of Heaven'?

Official lyrics for 'Breath of Heaven' can be found on Amy Grant's official website, licensed music lyric sites, and on the album liner notes.

Additional Resources

1. *Whispers of Heaven: Exploring the Spiritual Depths of Breath of Heaven*

This book delves into the profound spiritual themes embedded within the lyrics of "Breath of Heaven." It offers readers a reflective journey through the song's message of hope, faith, and divine presence during times of struggle. The author combines lyrical analysis with personal anecdotes to create an inspiring devotional guide.

2. *Breath of Heaven: A Christmas Carol's Journey Through Faith*

Focusing on the song's place within the Christmas tradition, this book examines how "Breath of Heaven" reinterprets the nativity story through Mary's perspective. It highlights the emotional and spiritual challenges she faces, as conveyed by the lyrics. Readers gain insight into the song's unique contribution to holiday music and Christian worship.

3. *Lyrics of Light: Understanding the Poetic Essence of Breath of Heaven*

This literary analysis explores the poetic devices and imagery used in "Breath of Heaven." The book breaks down the song's lyrics line by line, revealing layers of meaning that connect to broader themes of surrender and divine assistance. It's an ideal read for those interested in the art of songwriting and spiritual poetry.

4. *Mary's Song: The Story Behind Breath of Heaven*

Providing historical and biblical context, this book uncovers the story that inspired "Breath of Heaven." It explores Mary's role in the nativity story and how the song captures her inner thoughts and prayers. The author also discusses the impact the song has had on contemporary Christian music.

5. *Faith in the Midst of Fear: Lessons from Breath of Heaven*

This inspirational book focuses on the themes of fear, hope, and courage found in the song. It offers practical advice and spiritual reflections for readers facing their own trials. Through the lens of the song's lyrics, the book encourages trust in divine guidance during difficult moments.

6. *Breath of Heaven Devotional: Daily Reflections Inspired by the Song*

This devotional book provides 30 days of reflections and prayers inspired by the themes of "Breath of Heaven." Each entry includes a portion of the lyrics, a meditation, and a prayer to deepen the reader's spiritual experience. It serves as a companion for personal or group devotional time.

7. *The Heart of Christmas: Embracing the Message of Breath of Heaven*

This book discusses how "Breath of Heaven" captures the emotional and spiritual heart of the Christmas

season. It explores themes of anticipation, surrender, and divine intervention. Readers are invited to reconnect with the true meaning of Christmas through the song's heartfelt lyrics.

8. *Voices of Hope: The Impact of Breath of Heaven in Contemporary Worship*

Examining the song's influence on modern worship music, this book looks at how "Breath of Heaven" has been embraced by churches and artists worldwide. It includes interviews, worship leader insights, and stories of how the song has touched lives. The book highlights the power of music as a tool for spiritual connection.

9. *Song of the Savior's Mother: A Theological Reflection on Breath of Heaven*

This theological study explores the deeper meanings behind the song's portrayal of Mary's perspective. It considers doctrinal themes such as obedience, grace, and divine providence. The book offers readers a scholarly yet accessible reflection on the significance of "Breath of Heaven" within Christian thought.

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