

# Bill Anderson, Po' Folks Christmas

(Bill Anderson)

There's a whole lotta people lookin' down their noses at me  
'Cause I didn't come from a wealthy family  
I guess I learned to take it for most of the year  
But every December when Christmas drew near  
And all the other families were out spreadin' cheer  
We was sittin' home being po' folks.

Our Christmas shopping was thumbin' through the new catalog  
Lookin' and a wishin' and a wantin' everything we saw  
Little toy trains and little toy boats  
And sister kept lookin' at the little girl's coats  
We all sat down and wrote Santa a note  
But Santa don't come to see po' folks.

And we wadn't nothing but po' folks  
Po' folks livin' way in the country  
We never heard the jingle of the jingle bells  
Ho, ho, ho, we was po, po. po'  
And if we had Christmas well we just made it ourselves.

Daddy took a hatchet and daddy chopped a pine tree down  
The only decorations were the ones we made or found  
Brother saw some holly in the rich man's yard  
He picked it up fast and ran home hard  
And mama knew he stole it but bless her heart  
Christmas ain't easy on po' folks  
And it ain't no time for whipping po' folks.

--- Instrumental ---

I remember one Christmas it was blowing  
And a snowing mean  
Wadn't nothing in the kitchen  
But a few of mama's homecanned beans  
Some ladies from the church brought a basket of food  
Mama kinda smiled and she said that's good  
But why don't you all just take it to the folks  
That live down the road  
They ain't got as much as we do, huh  
Why they're just po' folks.

She only kept a chicken and enough  
To make some homemade bread  
But you'd've thought we was feastin'  
From the blessings that my daddy said  
And later when kids was tucked in tight  
And the fire wadn't nothin' but a flickering light  
You oughta heard my mama sing Silent Night  
Cause that's what you do when you're po' folks  
And we wadn't nothin' but po' folks.

Christmas time when you're po' folks  
The Lord sure must've loved us po' folks ha, ha  
He made a passel of us  
Everybody at my house was po' folks  
Why most of the time we was po'  
We couldn't even pay attention, mercy  
Christmas time when you're po' folks...