

13 Daze of Xmas

in **winter wood** we walked snagging sleeves on limbs still bleeding leaves in silent snow we stalked an evergreen as tall as a child dreams out on the edge of town where old barns are falling down i'll ride shotgun if you chop the tree in winter wood we found some empty cans and cigarettes stubbed out on shoulder sands and a stop sign tilted back with bullet holes the size of our white hands i heard an old man shout at left cars rusting out may no shotgun come shouting down on thee in winter wood in winter wood we walked out on the edge we walked and i'll ride shotgun if you chop the tree may no old man come shouting down on thee in winter wood...the bones in the closet are restless to down our egg nog before xmas the ghosts in the gears now get anxious to gargle our spirits and thank us now stingy jack acts the part of jack frost before the sham scarecrow scarcely leaves the lawn untimely tinsel perks up the office neck tie party black friday will soon loom with the frosty moon and rudolph will land on your roof by noon and weak wassail/the money trail will lead the way down some blind alley where somebody's bound to light you up for cheap you never know who's your secret santa or who's your **xmas creep**...have you heard on the air wishes come true for more than three kings' share and a mountain of myrrh **birds gotta fly** fish gotta talk my little buddy and i gotta follow that star have you heard on the air wishes come true won't you come on down to my winter rescue castaways of winter on a parched desert isle rum cocktails and alexanders and warm neighbors' smiles so string up the lights and the fake mistletoe pink flamingos in flight among gold magnolia cones have you heard on the air wishes come true won't you come on down to my winter rescue is it blue christmas i'm singing...be thankful for this blanket full of static snow that it brings the sleep of heavenly peace we used to know was it white noise from a white void in a **white world** if we could only dream be hopeful for these notes afloat on currents blown that they reach the ears of children listening to solemn drones full of white noise from a white void in a white world if we could only dream be hopeful for snowflakes afloat on winds blown light that they reach the tongues of children mute on silent nights in a white world full of white noise from a white void if we could only dream...i need you but you don't need me i've been on you all this time for free something's gotta give for you and me to live or you will leave me here with nothing left do you see me like i see you holding on with everything to lose something's gonna break the chances we would take if i should leave you here with nothing left in **oak & mistletoe** tomorrow can be heard slung down or winter-born like a skein of scaling birds...mother always left out milk and cookies sister always carried a torch little brother always got up early thinking he might spot him from the porch father always stoked the fire grimly stating as the flames got higher santa's suit better be **fireproof** we all hear the sirens in the distance i think the reindeer might be annoyed somewhere a light shimmers on a steeple and we all point up to the snowy void still we dance into the night gladly singing as we all get tight santa's suit better be fireproof one more thing keep the yule tree watered one more spark and it all goes ablaze one more drink before i turn the lights off and get to bed before christmas day breaks where there's smoke there's surely a fire the smoke detector's bleat will tell you that dad lights up another on the kenmore he could never find that daggone match we all choke on the sour cider joking now the house is on fire santa's suit better be fireproof...it's stunning all this running around you'll lose your head at the lost and found bright-eyed and bacardi cocktailed standing in line at the frog hair sale was there a time before **xmas 4 dummies** when everyone's uncle drank a like mummy spinning crystals in gin and tonics and myths of the ball that wouldn't drop thirteen shots of schnapps on twelfth night five will get you ten three wise men lied two-faced jacks and jokers are wild three-putt one more buck to the pot back nine there was a time before xmas 4 dummies when everyone and their uncle drank a like mummy spilling mistle-tick-tack-toe gossip and what-ifs and balls that wouldn't drop don't get 'em started on the one big two-hearted that got away it's stunning all this running around...**santa claus falls on hard times** and hocks his sleigh to make ends meet while elves ship selves to warmer climes and reindeer busk in the street santa claus falls on hard times and puts the north pole up for sale all the elves have left the building all the reindeer are sloshed on wassail the snowflakes are frightened of falling when santa claus falls on hard times shall we spend all day in bed or play trick or treat instead now that santa has fallen on hard times we can paint the town in the red staying up all night in our dreams inebriated in-between now that Santa has fallen on hard times shall we ask for our new deal the snowflakes are frightened of falling now that santa has fallen on hard times santa's thankful god's greenhouse will keep the winters easygoing but he thinks the raining in his head is better when it's snowing snowing snowing...the car ends up in a ditch bent about a pole george bailey-esque a pole instead of a tree is a fortunate thing i guess my mind left the driving unattended racing down a hill like a diving sled a ditch is probably the only place for me that's best talkin' 'bout a **winter blunderland** it's some kind of life for sure looking through the windshield waiting for the man to come tow me home where my dog waits by the door the porch light burned out long ago but i see a smokey form through the window ghostly in the glow of the next door neighbors' xmas lights it's the oldest excuse in the book right next to the advice i never took but my dog ate the xmas gift i was going to give you tonight lost in the this winter blunderland it's best to stay clear of your fellow man not because he's mean or has it in for you just his mind is somewhere else than the wheel in his hand talkin' 'bout a winter blunderland it's some kind of life for sure looking through the windshield waiting for the man to come tow me home where my dog waits by the door

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1. Winter Wood
 2. Xmas Kleep
 3. Birds Gotta Fly
 4. White World
 5. Oak & Mistletoe
 6. Fireproof
 7. King in the Tree
 8. Xmas 4 Dummies
 9. Santa Claus Falls on Hard Times
 10. The Elves Have Left the Building
 11. Mrry Xmas Evrbdy
 12. First Oh Well
 13. Winter Blunderland

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all songs by kpopof except track 12, traditional, arranged by kowtow.

mastered by mark doyon at wampus.

art by jared davis: cover, "zombie reigndeer"; liner, "sad tree" & "krampus."

The songs on *13 Daze of Xmas* originally appeared as "singing xmas cards" to friends and family from 2003 to 2015.

a special mrry xmas thnx to tim, mark, rob-n-janna, and karen.

in memory of buck.

