

Elina
LAIVERA

ONCE UPON A CHRISTMAS DREAM



The
Christmas
Lyric Book

Introduction:

I always wanted to do a Christmas record and I am happy that it only came to be at this point in my life and history.

I never had more beautiful stories to tell before. I never had more joy in my heart while making a record before and I never had a more beautiful crew working on music with me before:

Jovan Ducret produced, arranged & mixed this record and played quite a large number of instruments on it, along with me. Sascha Pamann mastered it and gave it magic.

Thank you for giving this record a bit of your time and attention. I know that with everything we've been going through collectively, it is important to be given tools to celebrate the little daily blessings – and Christmas to me is all about that gratitude, appreciation, true sharing, love.

This album is my gift to you and a way that I hope our hearts can connect no matter the distance, no matter the differences! I hope it touches you, heals you and it gives you what you need it to give you! ✨

I dedicate this record to my family for everything they've done for me through the years & especially for supporting me back in 2014 to follow my dreams and move abroad. Everything I have today is rooted in that decision back then.

all my love, Elina



Thank You

to the beautiful Angels & Archangels guiding and inspiring me through the making of this album and in my daily life. My partner in art and life, Jovan Ducret - I don't know what the future holds and I don't care that much either but it's been a wonderful thing to be here with you so far, one more Christmas, making music, living life, sharing love. My Greek and German family, you are all so beautiful. Sascha Pamann at Momentum Mixing and Elio & our marketing team at MediaLuchs. Finally every radio station that has taken this music in ♥

Happy Christmas

Music: E.Laivera, J.Ducret Lyrics: E.Laivera
Arranged & Produced by Laivera & J. Ducret



Verse 1:

Find with me the words that I desire
Let's hang them on a tree beside the fire
Blessed be our home now once again
If it ain't our love a gift then what is?

Love the way my years with you unravel
If you didn't know well now you have it
Love how we've blessed us with our love
May we never have to be or live without it

Chorus:

So happy Christmas - Tuck yourself close to me
Under the tree lights - I'm so glad to be here
Like every year, you make me feel my heart is free
And I wrote you this 'cause I wanted you to know, baby
So happy Christmas
Yeah
Happy Christmas

Verse 2:

Love the way my face feels on your sweater
And your kiss upon my forehead's even better
Blessed be our families filled with joys
As many as the snowflakes in this December weather

Chorus

Verse 1



Happy Christmas is
an appreciation letter
to my partner and a
blessing over our lives

You have no idea what a simple "blessed be our home"
can do - if it is said with enough intention!

Once Upon A Christmas Dream

Music: E.Laivera, J.Ducret Lyrics: E.Laivera
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Lift your head and light up all these candles of yours
Haven't you heard? None told you that the Savior is born?

Toss your worries in an open fire
Let the warmth fill in your heart, tonight
Spread your doors and let them open wide
Doesn't hurt to share and give a little back

If you didn't notice, if you didn't know - it's Christmas
So say that you forgive me
Don't keep up unfinished business

Toss your hurting in our Savior's hands
There will be another chance to pout
Spread your arms wide open high above
'Cause it's love this day's about



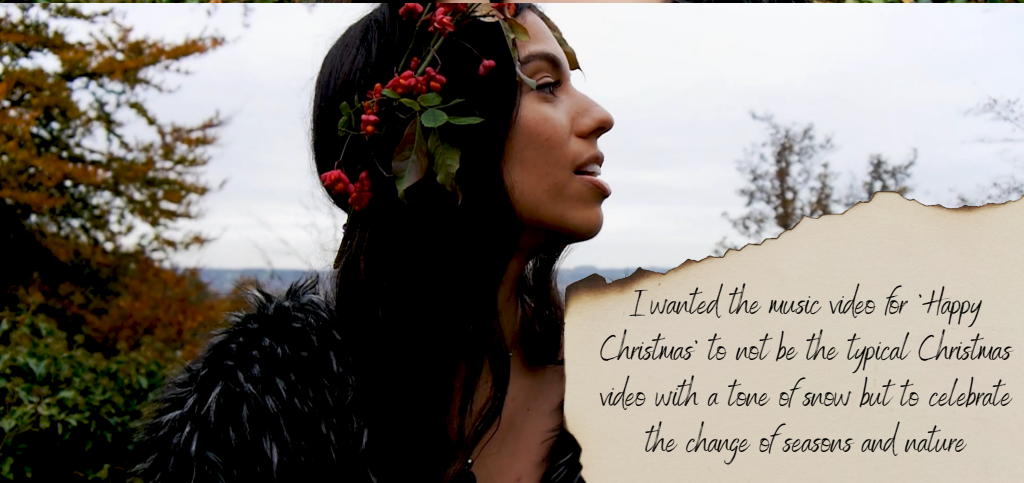
Oh lift your head and light up all these candles of yours
Haven't you heard? None told you that the Savior is born?
Yeah, no one's talking about it anymore
But God had not to do with religion
I get you hate everything you've been taught
But we don't need no church to feel God's love, no

So toss your worries in the snow filled breeze
Feel the warmth from deep within
And gaze up high and hear the Angels sing
Once upon a Christmas dream

If you didn't notice, if you didn't know, it's Christmas
So tell me that you love me, don't keep up unfinished business.



I wrote 'Once Upon' for those who don't like Christmas because they relate it to religion, church etc. Christmas is about love and personal spirituality - whatever that might look like for you



I wanted the music video for 'Happy Christmas' to not be the typical Christmas video with a tone of snow but to celebrate the change of seasons and nature

The Christmas Goblins

Music: E.Laivera, J.Ducret Lyrics: E.Laivera
Arranged & Produced by Laivera & J. Ducret

Come by the fire and rest your Soul
And hear the tales from centuries ago
Old tales the say of creatures of lore
Under the Earth - a tree and a saw

The Christmas Goblins - says our folk
the Tree of Life to cut was their work
Sawing it deep, hoped it collapses
All through the year with ropes and axes

For 12 long days from Christmas Day
To 6th of January they'd stay
Roaming the Earth, full-on mischief
Down from the chimneys, looking for treats

The Christmas Goblins, said old folk
Are not too smart but neither a joke
So busy your heart with large a Yule log
Burn day and night and make a good smoke
Throw in a shoe to ward off those elvish blokes

With Christed water, basil and cross
Go sprinkle all your windows and doors
Place a colander where they can see
Watch as they count all night up to three

When to the Earth's core they return
The Tree of Life has healed again
Back to their work to knock the Tree down
Till Christmas come again and they're back in town.





The Christmas Goblins is based on Greek folklore and stories I had heard in childhood from older ancestors. Goblins, elves, fairies, all that was so normal in my family.

My grandma had even told me once, that a neighbour of hers had once met a fairy, stolen her veil and thus made her his wife.

Very against women's right today but back then it was a big deal to know your neighbour was married to a fairy...!

Christmas Birthday

Music: E.Laivera, J.Ducret Lyrics: E.Laivera
Arranged & Produced by Laivera & J. Ducret

Christmas Birthday

Listen, I waited all year round for this day to come
You see, today it is my birthday
So hurry, Santa! Bring the presents my way!

I waited 4 long weeks merry-jingle-carolling
Gon' lighten it up with my homies
We'll revel in Yuletide Glory!

Stockings by the fire, gift wrappings all around
What festive day with blessings - mistletoe on frosty ground
So bring double presents, please
Place them underneath the tree, babe!
One for Jesus, one for me
It is my birthday and Christmas Eve



Christmas Birthday

Oh - when the clock be striking twelve
Make a wish and keep it well
Birthday gifts and jingle bells - another year it serves me well!

And I know you might be stressed
Trynna tend to every guest
Hosting family and friends
But baby please don't you forget my Christmas Birthday

Christmas Birthday

No no no please don't you forget about my Christmas Birthday



Christmas Bday!

here's to the best!

Christmas With My Ancestors

Music: E.Laivera Lyrics: E.Laivera
Arranged & Produced by Laivera & J. Ducret

I miss you on Christmas evening
I miss you, you're gone away
Memory ain't going away

When mom and dad would be gone and you were there for my sister
So she didn't have to spend New Year's all alone
And I owe it all to you
You went
Calling out for you
I ain't been the same, oh, since you've gone

And I never thought even though you're not around I would
Still be sitting 'round the table with my Ancestors
And I never thought I'd feel your Spirit blowing
With every wind and every leaf carried within it
And you were it, you were it, you were it.

Life sometimes can feel like an Odyssey - it was all fine until
You weren't next to me, holding my hand.
And how you'd come with smiles and a photograph for everyone
Remember you told me you saw our Spirits on these polaroids?

And the words you said are still here
And your wisdom still I keep in me
And sometimes I think I've seen you in a crowd

Cause I never thought even though you're not around I would
Still be sitting 'round the table with my Ancestors
And I never thought I'd feel your Spirit blowing
With every wind and every leaf carried within it
And you were it, yeah you were it... You were it.



I wrote 'Christmas with my Ancestors' to honor several people that have passed away through the years in my family and yet I have always felt them close in some way. Each and every one of those people have their own special reference in the song with something that was very particular about them (New Year's, polaroids etc) so the song is not about one person only but includes lots of different moments from different episodes I experienced with those people through the years. Years later I still feel their presence in little things such as the wind and the leaves carried with it or wisdom they bestowed upon me.

Credits & Info

All lyrics and music written by Elina Laivera

Music co-written by Jovan Ducret

All instruments played and/or programmed by Laivera & Ducret

Vocal Arrangements by E. Laivera

All lead vocals, backing vocals & choirs sung by Laivera

Orchestral Arrangements by Laivera & Ducret

Mixed by Jovan Ducret

Mastered by Sascha Pamann

'Once Upon A Christmas Dream'

created between May-October 2021 and released Nov. 17th 2021

Styling, hair, make-up: E. Laivera

Camera: J. Ducret

Artistic direction & production by E. Laivera

Graphics & All Other Photo and Video Content by E. Laivera

Sponsored by gvl and Neustart Kultur

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