

# The **UKULELE** Kids

a Christmas story



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Second Edition

It's Christmas Eve, and cheer is in the air! Siblings and cousins; Brayden, Camden, Gavin, Miles, Via, Winnie, Jack, Eleanor, Gracie, Declan and Mikey are home with their families, busily preparing for a wonderful

Christmas. Mother is making **KOMPOT**, a delicious fruity drink for the whole family, while father and the kids are making wonderful snacks for Santa Claus.



Suddenly, the phone **RINGS!** Who could be calling so late? It's Dziadzu!  
He's calling all the grand kids to ask what delicious snacks they'd picked  
out for Santa that night.







"Good food gives us energy for our bodies!" Brayden said, giggling.

**"HE LOVE'S FRUIT"** said Camden as he bit a grape and slice of Gouda.



"And now Santa will have all the energy he needs, thanks to you!"  
Dziadzu was so proud of his grand kids. But now it was time for the kids to say goodnight and get to bed. "I'm excited to see you all at Babcia and I's **PARTY** tomorrow. Goodnight wnuki!"



"Goodnight Dziadzu!"

"Goodnight Mom!"

"Goodnight Dad

**"GOODNIGHT** Kotka!"

Looks like Kotka doesn't need to be told twice.



Everyone gets tucked in and kisses goodnight. The children lay awake, listening to the soft sounds of music playing from downstairs. Mother and father's soft **LAUGHS** could be heard coming from the living room, and the children drifted off to dreams of monster trucks, dolls, and homemade forts.

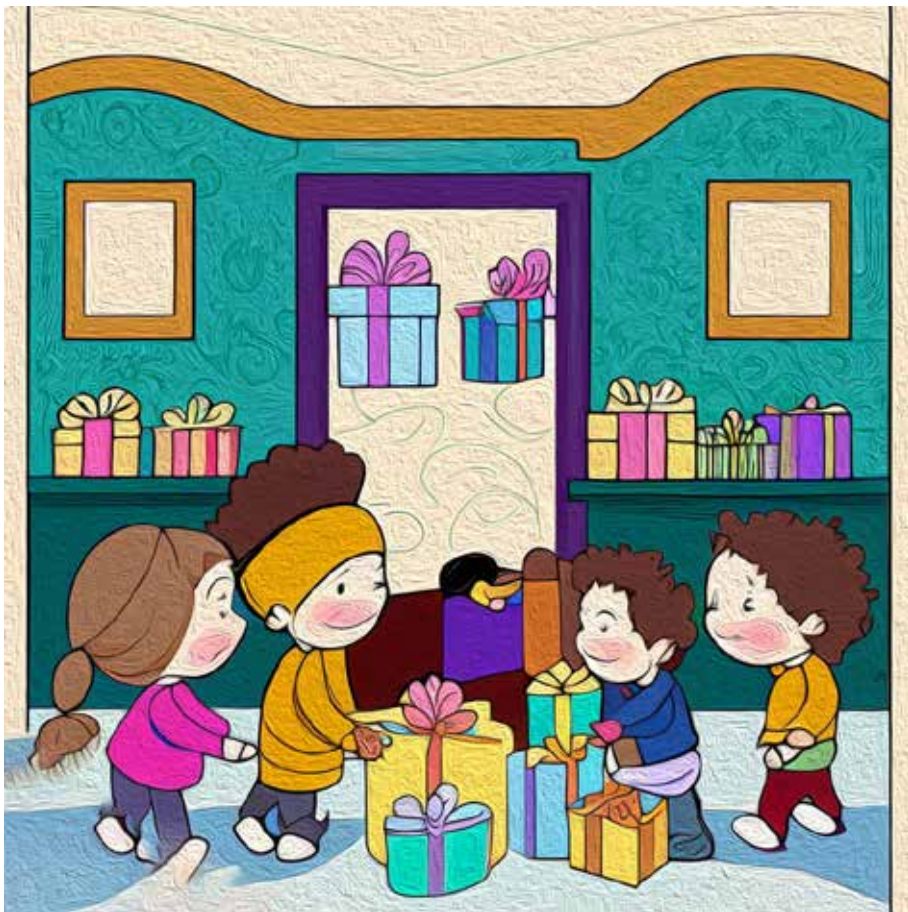


The night passed in a rush of wonderful dreams. Soon, the sun was peaking up over the horizon, its warm light seeping into the children's rooms. Winnie was the first to wake up – the warm rays of the sun welcoming her into Christmas morning. She yawned wide, then gasped in excitement!

**"IT'S CHRISTMAS!"**







She hopped out of bed, rushing into the living room, where Santa's work from the night before was on full display. Presents of all sizes were piled beneath the tree, each perfectly wrapped and **SPARKLING**. The stockings along the fireplace had been filled with tiny toys and treasures, and little cookies and candies. The other children weren't far behind, crying out in wonder at the glorious pile of presents.

"Yay!" Camden cried out, lunging for the nearest present.

"Whoa whoa!" Gavin cried out, **GRABBING** his youngest brother.

"We have to wait for mom and dad."

"Ugh, how long is that going to be?"

"I know what'll help," Miles said. "Come on!"



The kids hurried to the kitchen where Miles dug around in the pantry. A bag ripped open and the sounds of beans falling into a container echoed. Then a loud grinding. Via said, "We will wake them up by making lots of noise! Great idea!" Eleanor laughed and replied saying "No we will wake them up by the smell of fresh coffee" "Declan and Jack, go get the cream and sugar."

**"TA-DA!!"**





Together, the kids got to work, brewing up a pot of Christmas coffee.

Mother and Father woke to the **DELICIOUS** smell of hot coffee, and soon joined the kids in the kitchen. "Hey, Miles. You make a pretty good cup of coffee, thank you!" Mother said as she sipped her cup.

"Now, who wants to open up some presents?" Father asked.





The kids rushed into the room, opening wonderful presents. Incredible toys, beautiful clothes, and wonderful bikes – yet there was one present that stood out from the rest. Long and wide, it had been **BURIED** beneath the other presents, but there was no name tag. Who could it be for, and what could it be?

"Ooh, maybe it's a jungle gym for Kotka!" joked Gracy.

"It's from Dziadzu," Jack said.

"I think there's one for everyone," Mother said slyly.

Excitedly, the kids **TORE** into each present. What could it be?

"What is it?" Mikey asked.

"It's a ukulele," Camden replied.







Camden was a little sad. There had been so many great presents, but what was he going to do with a ukulele?

"Don't worry, kiddo," Father said.

"There's a **SPECIAL** plan for this gift."

What kind of plan could he mean?

“Okay everyone, time to get **READY** for Dziadzu and Babcia’s party!  
And make sure you bring your ukuleles.” Everyone got dressed and put the  
ukuleles in the car. Off they all went to Dziadzu and Babcia Christmas party.





The party was going great. Dziadzu and Babcia had made all kinds of wonderful **GOODIES** for the party like polish potato salad (sałatka), ham and devilled eggs. And all the kids were excited to see all their aunts, uncles, and cousins.



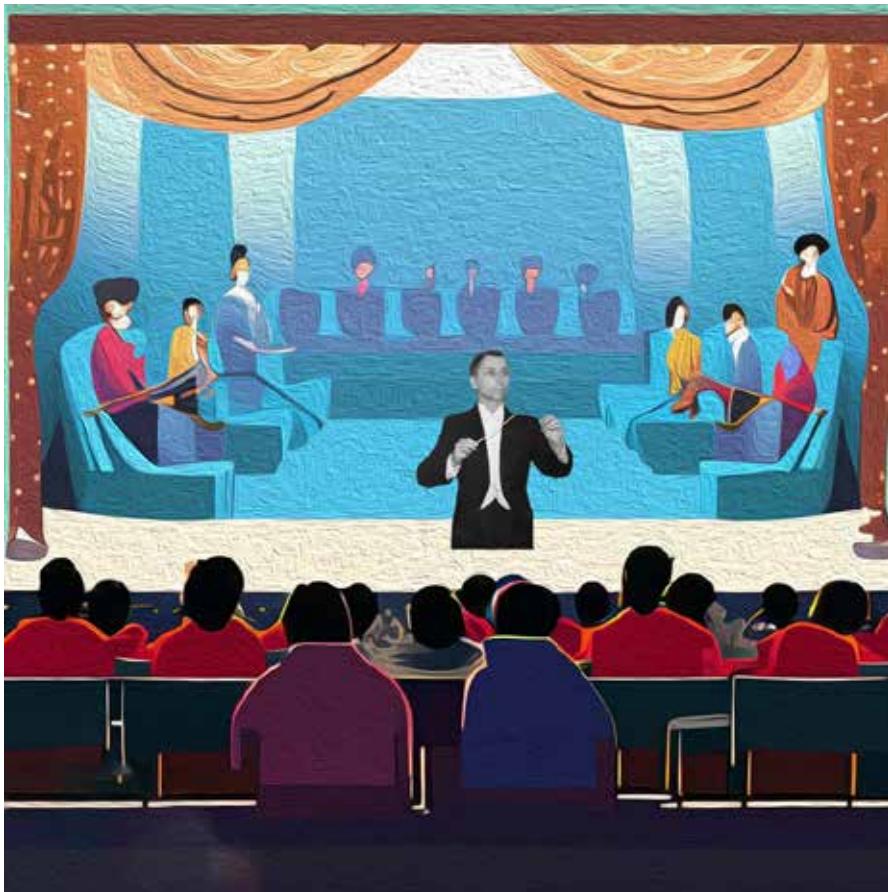
Wonderful **MUSIC** played throughout the party on the record player.



The kids showed off their **WONDERFUL** new ukuleles, and soon, Babcia called all the children into her kitchen. "Come, come wnuki! I have a story to tell you!"



The kids all gathered in the kitchen, breathing deep the wonderful smells of Salatka and baked ham. "I hope you all like your ukuleles," Babcia had a sly look in her eye. "Music is an **IMPORTANT** part of the history of this family. Back in Poland, your great grandfather was a symphony conductor, before becoming an organist at Our Lady of Czestochowa Church."







“We hope you’ll use your new **INSTRUMENTS** to practice and learn to love music just as he did.” “We should start a band!” someone shouted suddenly. Everyone looked in surprise. Another screamed, “yes a band” then another.

“What a wonderful idea!” Dziadzu **BURST** into the kitchen. “I will conduct the band.” Camden now understood the plan. If he had not received this gift, he could not have been in the band.





Now everyone understood that Grandfather's passion for music and legacy would live on forever.

"Now, what should the name of the band be?"

**"THE UKELELE KIDS"**



Dedication:

To all the children whose hearts strum with joy,  
May the **MELODIES** of this story bring you endless delight.

May your Christmas be filled with magic and cheer,  
As you journey through these pages with the ukulele kids near.  
with love and warmth,  
The Marczewski Family

And a big thank you to our Babcia who is the  
inspiration for the story.

Polish Words:

Dziadzu - grand father

Babcia - grand mother

Sałatka - potato salad

Wnuki - grandchildren

Kotka - female cat



Experience the **JOY** and magic of Christmas Eve with Brayden, Camden, Gavin, Miles, Via, Winnie, Jack, Eleanor, Gracie, Declan, and Mikey. As their families prepare for a wonderful Christmas, a phone call from Dziadzui sparks excitement. Each child chooses special snacks for Santa, showcasing their thoughtfulness and earning a place on the “good list.”

On Christmas morning, the children awaken to a **DAZZLING** display of presents and the enchanting surprise of ukuleles from Dziadzui. Embracing their new instruments, they embark on a musical adventure, forming “The Ukulele Kids” band. This heartwarming tale celebrates family, tradition, and the legacy of music, reminding us of the magic that awaits during the holiday season.



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