

Santa Lucia

Neapolitan Folksong

Song of Saint Lucy's Day, Festival of Light 13 December

The original song celebrates the picturesque waterfront district, Borgo Santa Lucia, in the Bay of Naples (Italy). In Nordic Europe (Scandinavia), the tune "Santa Lucia" has been given various lyrics to accommodate it to the winter-light Feast of Saint Lucy (3rd-century martyr in Syracuse on Sicily, largest island in the Mediterranean Sea), at the darkest time of the year, 13 December.

Luciasången (Swedish), Sigrid Elmblad 1919

Sankta Lucia, ljusklara hägring,
sprid i vår vinternatt glans av din fägring.
I drömmar med vingesus under oss sia,
tänd dina vita ljus, Sankta Lucia.

Saint Lucia, bright illusion,
Spread in our winter night a glimmer of your beauty.
Dreams of wings rustling over us in prophesy,
Light your white candles, Saint Lucia.

Kom i din vita skrud, huld med din maning.
Skänk oss, du julens brud, julfröjders aning.
Drömmar med vingesus, under oss sia,
tänd dina vita ljus, Sankta Lucia.

Come in your white robes, gracious with your call.
Grant us oh Christmas bride, an idea of Christmas cheer.
Dreams of wings rustling over us in prophesy,
Light your white candles, Saint Lucia.

Santa Lucia sangen. (Dansk)

Nu bæres lyset frem stolt på din krone.
Rundt om i hus og hjem sangen skal tone.
Nu på Lucia-dag hilser vort vennelag, Santa Lucia.

Nightly, go heavy hearts round farm and steading
On earth, where sun departs, shadows are spreading.
Then on our darkest night, comes with her shining light. Santa Lucia!