

Bing Crosby

1949



Genre: Traditional Pop

Producer: Robert Emmett Dolan

Label: Decca

When to Spin: Writing holiday cards

LINER NOTES Bing Crosby's Christmas album predates the LP format. It was originally released in 1945 on five separate 78 records and was then recompiled in 1949. It has remained in print ever since. Released a few weeks after Pearl Harbor, Crosby's signature song "White Christmas" went on to become the best-selling single of all time, with over fifty million copies sold. The song established that Christmas music could be commercially successful. Smooth, rich, and soothing, *Merry Christmas* is the original holiday classic.

BEFORE YOU DROP THE NEEDLE Gather pens, paper, and stationery. Remember postage so all you have to do is drop the cards in the mail!

SIDE A: Christmas Card (PICTURED)

Send a drinkable Christmas card with this low-proof mix that's great for sipping while conducting holiday tasks. Listen along while Bing croons about writing "may your days be merry and bright" on his signature hit song, "White Christmas."

2½ ounces dry vermouth

¼ ounce Bénédictine

3 dashes absinthe

Grapefruit peel, for garnish

Stir dry vermouth, Bénédictine, and absinthe with ice. Strain into a chilled rocks glass and garnish with a grapefruit peel.



SIDE B: A Lot Like Christmas

Channel a bygone era with applejack brandy, once America's most popular spirit. Reminiscent of the spirited-but-balanced drinks of the 1940s, this cocktail is a pretty sight to see. With a hint of orange and a dash of lime, it's as enchanting as Bing's voice.

1½ ounces Laird's applejack

¾ ounce Cointreau

¾ ounce fresh lime juice

¼ ounce simple syrup

Lime wheel, for garnish

Shake applejack, Cointreau, lime juice, and simple syrup with ice. Strain into a cocktail glass. Garnish with a lime wheel.