

First stanza: Anonymous, before 1820  
Other stanzas & chorus: Reginald Heber, 1811

# Star in the East

Transcribed from Hickok's *Sacred Harp*, 1832.

A minor

Arranged by John H. Hickok, 1832

T. 8 *tr* 5 10

1. { Hail the blest morn, see the great Me-di-a - tor, Down from the regions of glo-ry de-scend! } Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,  
Shepherds, go worship the babe in the man-ger, Lo, for his guard the bright an-gels at-tend. }

B.

2. { Cold was his cra-dle, the dew-drops were shi-ning; Low lies his head with the beasts of the stall; } Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,  
An-gels a-dore him in slum-bers re-cli-ning, Maker, and Monarch, and Sovereign of all. }

T. 15 20 *tr*

Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid; Star in the east, the ho-ri-zon a-dor-ning, Guide where our infant Re-dee-mer was laid.

B.

3. Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,  
Odors of Edom and offerings divine;  
Gems of the mountain, and pearls of the ocean,  
Myrrh from the forest, and gold from the mine?

4. Vainly we offer each ample oblation;  
Vainly with gold would his favor secure:  
Richer by far is the heart's adoration;  
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor!

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This is a folk hymn (Jackson 1953a, no. 182), first arranged by John H. Hickok in his *Sacred Harp* in 1932. Arranged by William Walker in his *Southern Harmony* (1835), p. 16, for three parts. It has been arranged several times since then, notably by William Hauser in 1848 and William Walker again in 1867, both of these for four parts.