

December 21, 2009
“Follow the Star”
Contest Winner
Merry Christmas, BRUCE!



Submitted by *MTD*

“His lyrics celebrate 'everyman'; lift, inspire, delight, dignify. His music wraps you in its arms; pounds, leaps, thrills, dares. His presence, larger than life, is life-affirming. He gives without taking, hopes without wavering, believes without relenting. His energy, passion, life flash pure joy, while his music, lyrics, voice salve the hopelessness lurking in too many hearts. Like so many, lost and broken after the September Day of Death, he poured anguish, horror, outrage, pain and loss into *The Rising*; mixing and stirring his melodies with the glimmers of hope that breathe to spite despair.

He follows the Star and gestures all those behind him to come along for the ride. And on a balmy November night, in the great city of Buffalo, he poured his spirit, talent and light into an arena that instantaneously became a hallowed hall. This Christmas week will be filled with many MDSes (mandatory dance songs). His unique covers of '*Santa Claus is Comin' to Town*' (no, not many!) and '*Merry Christmas, Baby*' will have my kids and me 'dancing in the dark', with red, blue, yellow, green, and orange lights glowing on the tree!

Thank you, Lord, for talent that delights, and artists who share their gifts with a world desperate for joy.”