

Cyclone Tracy

Verse 1

Christmas Eve in Darwin, the air was thick and still,
Families gathered close that night beneath each windowsill.
A distant roar came rolling in like thunder from the sea,
And every heart began to race at what it soon would be.

December heat on the zinc roof Salt air heavy on the town
Kids ran barefoot past the shopfronts. It was Christmas coming down
Then the sky went black and narrow like a hand across the sun
And the harbor held its breath as the sirens had begun.

The gauges failed at midnight when the winds was just too strong,
The radio towers folded as the storm came marching on.
The harbour's boats were scattered like a child's forgotten toys,
And sirens cut the midnight air with weary human cries.

[Chorus]

Cyclone Tracy, take me back
Cyclone Tracy, hear me call
Cyclone Tracy, over Darwin
You tore right through it all
(Tore right through it all)

Windows rattled like a prayer, a trembling hymn the night let fall,
Each gust a hand upon the timber, each timber echoing through the wall.
Then dust turned into driving rain And People pulled the shutters tight
Then the night came in again and left an eerie dusty light.

The lamps shrank back into their halos, their trembling light too frail to keep
The creeping wind from crossing thresholds, or stirring what should stay asleep.
She sang a lullaby of wind that no one wished to hear,
A cradle made of broken beams, a song of dread and fear.
The children woke to darkness where the daylight used to be,
And Tracy's voice kept echoing across the shattered sea.

[Chorus]

Cyclone Tracy, take me back
Cyclone Tracy, hear me call
Cyclone Tracy, over Darwin
You tore right through it all
(Tore right through it all)

When dawn crept in on trembling feet, it found a broken town,
But neighbours lifted neighbours up, refusing to stay down.
From twisted beams and scattered dreams, a brighter future grew,
For Darwin's heart is iron-strong, and storms can't break it through.

The silence after Tracy passed was heavier than rain,
A city made of shattered dreams, of memory and pain.
But from the wreckage rose a will no cyclone could erase,
And Darwin found its breath again, rebuilt with quiet grace.

Two-thirds of homes lay shattered when the daylight finally came,
Evacuation lines stretched long but hope outlived the Pain.
Oh Tracy, wild Tracy, on that haunted Christmas night,
You broke the heart of Darwin with your roaring, ragged might.
But from the wreckage, from the ashes, from the silence of the sea,
Rose the hands of those who stayed — and rebuilt their destiny.

[Final Chorus]

Cyclone Tracy, take me back
Cyclone Tracey, hear me call
Cyclone Tracy, over Darwin
You tore right through it all
Cyclone Tracy, hear me now
We remember every wall
Cyclone Tracy, over Darwin
Still we rose beyond it all
(Still we rose beyond it all)