

Marvelous Little Toy

by Tom Paxton (1961)

When I was just a wee little lad, full of health and joy,
 My father homeward came one night and gave to me a toy.
 A wonder to behold it was, with many colors bright,
 And the moment I laid eyes on it, it became my heart's delight.

It went zip when it moved and pop when it stopped,
 Whir when it stood still,
 I never knew just what it was, and I guess I never will.

The first time that I picked it up, I had a big surprise,
 'Cause right on the bottom were two big buttons that looked like big green eyes.
 I first pushed one and then the other, then I twisted its lid,
 And when I put it down again, this is what it did.

It first marched left and then marched right, and then marched under a chair
 And when I looked where it had gone, it wasn't even there.
 I started to cry, but my daddy laughed 'cause he knew that I would find
 When I turned around my marvelous toy would be chugging from behind.

The years have gone by too quickly it seems, I have my own little boy,
 And yesterday I gave to him my marvelous little toy.
 His eyes nearly popped right out of his head and he gave a squeal of glee.
 Neither one of us know just what it is, but he loves it just like me.
 It still goes