

7. Little Engine That Tried (by Tara Scheyer)

I wrote this one in 2005 for Arts in the Heart. We were just starting to toss the kid record idea around so I wrote a song that was specifically a kid song and played it at a show (with Erin Jacobs) just to see what the reaction would be. Lots of folks told me they liked the idea (I even started getting requests for it - thanks, Gary), so we decided to start putting some serious time into this kid song idea.

I sang and played guitar, piano, bass, Kevin played the salt shaker, and Felix played the train whistle. It was a Thomas the Tank Engine whistle given to him by his little friend, Sarah Allen. He had another one that he got at Day Out with Thomas in Chattanooga a few months ago, but it was at Nana's house at the time. Ask him about it, he loves to tell the Chattanooga story.

LITTLE ENGINE THAT TRIED (capo 5)

CHORUS

G Em C9 D
Choo choo choo Chug along
G Em C9 D
Choo Choo Choo Rolling strong
Em C9
I'm gonna make it up that mountain
Em C9 D
Gonna climb right up it's side
G D/F# C9 D G
'Cause I'm the little engine that tried

V1 Em C9 D G
I'm not big like the trains that you know from T.V.
Em C9 D G
And I'm not brave like the ones in the storybooks, you see.
Em C9 Em C9 D
Yeah, I'm just a little kid train and I'll do the best that I can
CHORUS

V2

My mountains are not big and tall and hard to command
They're just ordinary obstacles and everyday demands.
I will do my best and sometimes I'll pass the test.
CHORUS

V3

Now I don't climb a mountain every time I'm out the door
In fact, in all my life, I've only climbed 3 - no, 4-
Em C9 Em C9 D
But I know if I try I can make it up to 5,
Em C9 Em D/F# G C9 D
yes I know if I try, I can make it up to 5.
CHORUS