

Star Festival song / Tanabata-sama

<https://riverofsong.uk/>

On July 7th for Tanabata-sama, The Star Festival, children write their wishes on strips of coloured paper and tie them to bamboo branches.

This is a romantic festival to celebrate the meeting of two stars; husband Orihime, the star Vega and wife Hikoboshi, the star Altair. They can only meet once a year when it is possible to cross the river Amanogawa or the Milky Way, for a flock of magpies will help Orihime cross over just this one time. <https://star-name-registry.com/blog/item/the-romance-of-altair-and-vega>

Orihime and Hikoboshi cannot meet if it is cloudy as the river will be too high. So in Japan everyone wishes dearly for a clear night, full of stars, on this special date.

Sa - sa no ha sa - ra - sa - ra, No - ki - ba ni yu - re - ru
O - ho - shi sa - ma ki - ra - ki - ra, Kin — gin — su - na - go.



Sasa no ha sara sara
Nokiba ni yureru
Ohoshi-sama kira kira
Kin gin sunago

Bamboo softly rustles in the night,
In the sky the stars twinkle bright,
Golden and silver grains of sand,
High above the Milky Way.



Choose your fondest wishes to write,
On five strips of paper bright,
Then tie your wishes high on a tree,
Stars will grant them, you will see.

