



*Above artwork is taken from Phillips Brooks' 19th century book, "Heartsease."*

Though the holy duo would create a second seasonal song together, "Everywhere, Everywhere Christmas Tonight," only "O Little Town Of Bethlehem" would go on to achieve worldwide popular-



*Phillips Brooks' tombstone, located in Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, Massachusetts*

ity when it was published in the Episcopal Hymnal of 1892, a year before Phillips Brooks' death. It is a powerful testament of some of the most poetic thoughts he ever imagined during his Middle East transformation:

"As concerns Jesus," he wrote in his diary, "I know nothing which can more adjust our views of him than a visit to the Holy Land. While by fastening the New Testament story in its place by geographical positions it rescues it from vagueness and obscurity and makes the humanity a clear and palpable fact. It is like the relation between an immortal word and the mortal lips that uttered it. The lips die and you go and look at them when they are dead and see at once how they were made to utter the word, their whole mechanism built for it and yet how, while they uttered it even they were dying in giving expression to what in its very nature was Eternal."

For Phillips Brooks, who died of diphtheria on January 23, 1893, and is buried just outside Boston at Mount Auburn

Cemetery, eternity became his song of hope, a metaphor of the love that can be found on a journey to Bethlehem where light transcends darkness.