We three kings of Orient are; Bearing gifts we traverse afar, Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star. Over two thousand years ago, three great kings journeyed across the desert, riding through the heat of day and dark of night. Each from a different region, each beckoned by the same gleaming star, each bearing treasures, each wishing to welcome a newborn asleep in a manger's hay -- a baby named Jesus, who would change the world. This beloved Christmas carol, written in 1857, celebrates the wise men's journey and the first Christmas night. Internationally renowned artist Gennady Spirin pays his own type of homage with paintings so exquisitely detailed and wrought that they, too, are a gift -- to that baby in the manger and to you.

Features:
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My Personal Review:

Russian born Gennady Spirin is one of the most gifted, imaginative artists working today. His illustrations are lush, rich, intricately detailed from the largest image to the smallest accouterment. Looking at some of the 30 books he has illustrated, it is as though one is looking at fine art. In fact, his works are found in private collections as well as museums throughout the world.

Mr. Spirin's awards are numerous - four gold medals from the Society of Illustrators, the Golden Apple from the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava, and first prize at both the Bologna and Barcelona International Book Fairs.

First written in 1857 We Three Kings is one of our most beloved Christmas carols as it tells of the wise men's journey to visit the manger in Bethlehem. Done in watercolor and colored pencils, Mr. Spirin's paintings for this carol appear bathed in a golden light. All are full page and exquisitely wrought, an illustrated edition of this traditional Christmas song which is sure to become a family keepsake.

- Gail Cooke
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