

Sheldon Bair

'Twas the Night Before Christmas
A Merry Frolic

Poem by
Clement Clarke Moore

Soprano or Tenor,
String Quintet or String Orchestra,
and 2 Percussionists:

1. Mallets: chimes and orchestra bells
(or all orchestra bells if necessary)

Cues in mallet part are all
non-mallet instruments.

2. Battery: mark tree, jingle bells,
small triangle, vibraslap, sand paper,
suspended cymbal, temple blocks,
flexatone, bass drum (or large tom-tom),
& police whistle.

jingle bells

Musical notation for the first system, including piano and vocal staves. The piano part features a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. The vocal part is in the same key and time. Dynamics include *mp* and *mf*. The piano part has a section of sixteenth-note chords with a '4' above them, and a final triplet of sixteenth notes.

I sang 'not even a mouse!' The stock-ings were hung by the chim-ney with care, In hopes that St. Nich-o-las soon would be there.---

Musical notation for the second system, including piano and vocal staves. The piano part features a bass clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. The vocal part is in the same key and time. Dynamics include *mf*, *mp*, and *p*. The piano part has a section of sixteenth-note chords with a '4' above them, and a final triplet of sixteenth notes.



B

mark tree 'sugar plums'

Musical notation for the third system, including piano and vocal staves. The piano part features a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. The vocal part is in the same key and time. Dynamics include *p* and *mp*. The piano part has a section of sixteenth-note chords with a '4' above them, and a final triplet of sixteenth notes.

The Child-ren were nest-led all snug in their beds, While vis-ions of su-gar plums

Musical notation for the fourth system, including piano and vocal staves. The piano part features a bass clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. The vocal part is in the same key and time. Dynamics include *mp*. The piano part has a section of sixteenth-note chords with a '4' above them, and a final triplet of sixteenth notes.

small triangle

jingle bells

mp

orch bells

mp

mp

danced in their heads. — And ma in her ker-chief and I in my cap, Had just set-tled down for a long win-ters' nap. —

mf

mp

p

mp

p

mp

p

mp

p

mp

30

C

temple blocks
improvise 'clatter'

vibraslap

vibraslap (cue)

f

mf

mf

When out on the lawn there a - rose such a clat-ter, I sprang from my bed to see what was the mat - ter.

pizz. non-div.

arco

non-div.

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mf