



'Twas the Night Before Christmas

For Narrator and Concert Band

Poem by CLEMENT CLARK MOORE
Arranged by JACK BULLOCK (ASCAP)

INSTRUMENTATION

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1 Conductor | 2 1st Trombone |
| 1 Narrator | 2 2nd Trombone |
| 6 Flute | 2 3rd Trombone |
| 2 Oboe | 2 Euphonium |
| 2 Bassoon | 1 Baritone Treble Clef |
| 3 1st B♭ Clarinet | 4 Tuba |
| 3 2nd B♭ Clarinet | 1 Mallet Percussion (Bells) |
| 3 3rd B♭ Clarinet | 1 Timpani |
| 2 B♭ Bass Clarinet | 1 Optional Timpani
(Two drums only) |
| 2 1st E♭ Alto Saxophone | 2 Percussion 1
(Snare Drum, Bass Drum) |
| 2 2nd E♭ Alto Saxophone | 4 Percussion 2
(Suspended Cymbal/
Crash Cymbals, Sleigh
Bells/Woodblock) |
| 1 B♭ Tenor Saxophone | |
| 1 E♭ Baritone Saxophone | |
| 3 1st B♭ Trumpet | |
| 3 2nd B♭ Trumpet | |
| 3 3rd B♭ Trumpet | |
| 2 1st F Horn | |
| 2 2nd F Horn | |

SUPPLEMENTAL AND WORLD PARTS

Available for download from
www.alfred.com/worldparts

- E♭ Alto Clarinet
1st Horn in E♭
2nd Horn in E♭
1st Trombone in B♭ Bass Clef
2nd Trombone in B♭ Bass Clef
3rd Trombone in B♭ Bass Clef
1st Trombone in B♭ Treble Clef
2nd Trombone in B♭ Treble Clef
3rd Trombone in B♭ Treble Clef
Baritone in B♭ Bass Clef
Tuba in E♭ Bass Clef
Tuba in E♭ Treble Clef
Tuba in B♭ Bass Clef
Tuba in B♭ Treble Clef

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PROGRAM NOTES

The well-loved poem “'Twas the Night Before Christmas” is given a new treatment with this tongue-in-cheek arrangement for narrator with musical examples. The poem, read by the narrator, is given in a line-by-line manner which is then answered by the band with a short musical phrase, further identifying the meaning or background of the poem. It's all in good fun and is another view of this memorable poem.

Clement Clarke Moore (1779–1863) wrote the poem called “A Visit from St. Nicholas” in 1822. He was an introvert, so a friend sent the poem to the local newspaper with the condition that the author was to remain anonymous. It was first published in 1823 under the present title, but it was not until 1844 that Moore claimed ownership. As we know now, the poem is loved and has become famous the world over.

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Provided in this publication is a Narrator's script with indications of when to pause for the musical interludes. It is suggested that the Narrator be a prominent person of the community, the Principal of the school, a favorite teacher, President of the Board of Education, etc. The Narrator should be instructed to recite in a clear, concise manner, and should wait after the music each time in case (hopefully) there is a reaction from the audience.

The musical examples after each verse should start within one or two seconds after the last word of that cue. The timing is vital to the continuity of the performance. Each of the musical examples is numbered to aid during rehearsal and performance. Markings of volume and tempo may be adjusted to meet the needs of your ensemble.

A short explanation about comedy: Good comedy is a planned event. Timing is important, of course, and the approach should be serious. A flippant approach is neither funny nor effective. The desired effect is in direct ratio to the effectiveness of the presentation and the material presented.



'Twas the Night Before Christmas

For Narrator and Concert Band

FULL SCORE

Approx. Duration - 5:15

Poem by Clement Clarke Moore
Arranged by Jack Bullock (ASCAP)

Spirited $\text{♩} = 112$

Flute

Oboe

Bassoon

B♭ Clarinets

B♭ Bass Clarinet

E♭ Alto Saxophones

B♭ Tenor Saxophone

E♭ Baritone Saxophone

B♭ Trumpets

F Horns

Trombones

Euphonium

Tuba

Mallet Percussion (Bells)

Timpani

Percussion 1 (Snare Drum, Bass Drum)

Percussion 2 (Suspended Cymbal/Crash Cymbals, Sleigh Bells/Woodblock)

Spirited $\text{♩} = 112$

1 2 3 4 5

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1 Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

1 Tpts.

2

3

Hns.

1

2

Tbns.

1

2

3

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Sleigh Bells

Perc. 2

rit.

a2

rit.

ff

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

Narrator: 1. 'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house,
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.

(Narration starts)

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls.

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts.

Hns.

Tbns.

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

Narrator: 2. The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads.

Moderately $\text{♩} = 96$
"Jolly Old St. Nicholas"

rit.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl.

2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1
2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Moderately $\text{♩} = 96$
"Jolly Old St. Nicholas"

rit.

Tpts. 1
2

Hns. 1
2

Tbns. 1
2
3

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Change: A \flat to B \flat

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

21 22 23 24 25

Moderately $\text{♩} = 104$
 "Dance of the Sugar-Plum Fairy"

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Saxes.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts.

Hns.

Tbns.

Euph.

Tuba

(B. Cl., Bsn.)
 mp

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1
 mp

Perc. 2

Narrator: 3. And mama in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,
 Had just settled down for a long winter's nap.
 rit.

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Moderately slow $\text{♩} = 96$
"Rock-a-bye Baby"

Narrator: 4. When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Clz.

B. Cl.

A. Saxes.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Moderately slow $\text{♩} = 96$
"Rock-a-bye Baby"

Tpts.

Hns.

Tbns.

Eup.

Tuba

(B. Cl., Bsn.) mp

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Narrator: 5. Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters and

Moderately fast ♩ = 120
“Hallelujah Chorus”

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls.

B. Cl.

A. Saxes.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Moderately fast ♩ = 120
“Hallelujah Chorus”

Tpts.

Hns.

Tbns.

Euph.

Tuba

Play *f*

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Cr. Cyms.

Perc. 2

Narrator: *threw up the sash.*Narrator: *6. The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow
Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below,*

5 **Fast** $\text{♩} = 132$

Fl.
Ob.
Bsn.
Cls.
B. Cl.
A. Saxes.
T. Sax.
Bar. Sax.
Tpts.
Hns.
Tbns.
Euph.
Tuba
Mlt. Perc.
Timp.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2

5 **Fast** $\text{♩} = 132$

Slow ♩ = 72
"Silent Night"

Narrator: 7. When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny reindeer,

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls.

B. Cl.

A. Saxes.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts.

Hns.

Tbns.

Euph.

Tuba

(B. Cl., Bar. Sax.) *mp*

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

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44

45

46

47

48

Narrator: 8. With a little old driver, so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.

Moderately $\text{♩} = 96$
"First Call"

I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Saxes.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts.

Hns.

Tbns.

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Cr. Cyms.

ff

Fast $\text{♩} = 132$
 "Ta-ra-ra-boom-de-ay"

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts.

Hns.

Tbns.

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

rit.

Play f

Change: E \flat to D

stick shot ff

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54

55

56

57

58

Narrator: 9. More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
 And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name;
 "Now, Dasher! Now, Dancer! Now, Prancer and Vixen!
 On, Comet! On Cupid! On, Donder and Blitzen!"

March style $\text{♩} = 120$
 "Hail, Hail the Gang's All Here"

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl.

2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1 2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2 3

Hns. 1 2

Tbns. 1 2 3

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Cr. Cyms.

9

59

60

61

62

63

Narrator: 10. To the top of the porch! To the top of the wall!
Now dash away! Dash away! Dash away all!"

rit.

Now dash away, dash away, dash away, dash away, dash away,

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10 Quickly ♩ = 132
"The Chase"

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1
2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1
2

Hns. 1
2

Tbns. 1
2
3

Eup.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Susp. Cym.
w/ S.D. stick *f*

The musical score consists of 16 staves of music. The instruments listed are Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone 1, Alto Saxophone 2, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Trombones 1, Trombones 2, Trombones 3, Horns 1, Horns 2, Euphonium, Tuba, Mallet Percussion, Timpani, Percussion 1, and Percussion 2. The tempo is quickly (♩ = 132) and the section is titled "The Chase". The score includes dynamic markings such as *f* and *gliss.* Measures 69 through 72 are shown, with measure 72 ending on a fermata over the bassoon staff. The page number 16 is at the top left, and the catalog number 29613S is at the bottom left.

Narrator: 11. As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
 When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky.
 So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,
 With the sleigh full of toys, and St. Nicholas too.

Moderately slow $\text{♩} = 72$
"Up on the Housetop"

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1

Cls. 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1/2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1/2/3

Hns. 1/2

Tbns. 1/2/3

Eup.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

rit.

11

11

Moderately slow $\text{♩} = 72$
"Up on the Housetop" rit.

Change: D to E \flat

73 74 75 76 77

29613S

**Narrator: 12. And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.**

Fast ♩ = 120
“William Tell Overture”

rit.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Saxes.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts.

Hns.

Tbns.

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

12 Fast ♩ = 120
"William Tell Overture"

rit.

mf

mf

mf

mf

Woodblock

mf

Narrator: 13. As I drew in my head,
and was turning around,
Down the chimney

St. Nicholas came with a bound.

Moderately ♫ = 116
“Down the Chimney”
accel.

Narrator: 14. He was dressed all in fur,
from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnished
with ashes and soot.

With flute and bassoon.

accel.

Moderately $\text{d} = 116$
“Down the Chimney”
accel.

13

Narrator: 15. A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,
And he looked like a peddler, just opening his pack.

14 Slow ♩ = 66
"Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen"

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls.

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1/2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts.

Hns.

Tbns.

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Narrator: 16. His eyes -- how they twinkled! His dimples how merry!
 His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!
 His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
 And the beard of his chin was as white as the snow.

15 Slow $\text{♩} = 56$
 "Toyland"

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1 Cls. $a^2 mf$

2 Cls. mf
 Play

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1 2 mp

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax. mp

15 Slow $\text{♩} = 56$
 "Toyland"

Tpts.

Hns. 1 mp

2 Hns. mp

Tbns. 1 2

3 Tbns.

Euph.

Tuba mp

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1 p

Perc. 2

Susp. Cym.
 w/ S.D. stick mf

16 Fast swing $\text{♩} = 132$
"He's Got the Whole World"

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1
2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

16 Fast swing $\text{♩} = 132$
"He's Got the Whole World"

Tpts.

1
2
3

Hns.

1
2

Tbns.

1
2
3

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Susp. Cym.
w/S.D. stick

97 98 99 100 101

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Narrator: 17. The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath.

Narrator: 18. He had a broad face and a little round belly,
That shook, when he laughed like a bowlful of jelly.

Narrator: 19. He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself!
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

Moderately $\text{d} = 112$
“For He’s a Jolly Good Fellow”

rit.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls.

B. Cl.

A. Saxes.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts.

Hns.

Tbns.

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

19. He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself!
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

Moderately $\text{d} = 112$
“For He’s a Jolly Good Fellow”

rit.

19. He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself!
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

Moderately $\text{d} = 112$
“For He’s a Jolly Good Fellow”

rit.

Narrator: 20. He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk.
And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose! [20]

And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose! [20]

"Up the Chimney"

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls.

B. Cl.

A. Saxes.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts.

Hns.

Tbns.

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Fast $\text{♩} = 132$
"Up the Chimney"

Susp. Cym. mf

Choke ff

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Narrator: 21. He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.

Moderately fast ♩ = 120
“Give My Regards to Broadway”

rit.

Narrator: 22. But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight,
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!" Fast (in one) d. = 56
"We Wish You a Merry Christmas"

rit.