

# OH, DEAR!

## (What Can the Matter Be?)

for S.S.A. voices and piano  
with optional PianoTrax CD\*

Traditional Folk Song

Arranged, with new words, by  
**JENNIFER K. CANFIELD**

Freely (♩. = ca. 50)

*mf*

SOLO

He called me last week and ar - ranged for our date. I

PIANO

4

said to him, "John-ny, now please don't be late." He laughed, and he said, "Babe, you

7

know I'll be there, as soon as the guys and I come from the fair."

\* PianoTrax 3 Accompaniment CD available (34744).

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To purchase a full-length performance recording of this piece, go to [alfred.com/downloads](http://alfred.com/downloads)

10 **Brightly** (♩. = ca. 60) 11

*(end solo)*

Yeah, right!

SOPRANO I

*f*

Oh, dear!

SOPRANO II

*f*

Oh, my good-ness me! Dear oh dear, oh me!

ALTO

*f*

Oh, dear!

**Brightly** (♩. = ca. 60)

*f*

12

*mp*

What can the mat - ter be? Dear, dear!

*f*

Where — can he be? Where — can he be?

*mp*

*f*

What can the mat - ter be? Dear, dear!

*mp*

*f*

14

*mp* What can the mat - ter be? *mf cresc.* Oh, dear!

*mf cresc.* Oh, my good - ness me! Dear, oh dear, oh me!

*mp* What can the mat - ter be? *mf cresc.* He is late.

*mp* *mf cresc.*

16

*f* What can the mat - ter be? John - ny's so long at the fair.

*f* What can the mat - ter be? John - ny's so long at the fair. *mp* He

*f* ver - y late. John - ny's so long at the fair.

*f*

19

prom-ised to buy me a trin - ket to please me.

*mp* And then for a smile, he

*mp*

22

*mp* He prom-ised to buy me a bunch of blue rib - bons to

to

vowed he would tease me. to

25

tie up my bon - nie brown hair. *f*

tie up my bon - nie brown hair. *f*

tie up my bon - nie brown hair. *f*

*f* *mp*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 25 through 27. It features three vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor) and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in a soprano clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics 'tie up my bon - nie brown hair.' are written below each vocal staff. The piano accompaniment consists of a right-hand part with a treble clef and a left-hand part with a bass clef. Dynamics markings include *f* (forte) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

28

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 28 through 31. It features a piano accompaniment with a right-hand part in a treble clef and a left-hand part in a bass clef. The key signature remains two flats. The piano part continues with a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the left hand and a more melodic line in the right hand. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

30

*f* Oh, dear! *mp* What can the mat - ter be?

*f* Tell me what to do. Now it's half past two!

*f* Oh, dear! *mp* What can the mat - ter be?

32

*f* Dear, dear! *mp* What can the mat - ter be?

*f* Where can he be? Now it's al-most three!

*f* Dear, dear! *mp* What can the mat - ter be?

34 *mf cresc.*

Oh, dear! What can the mat - ter be?

*mf cresc.*

So much for our date! He is real - ly late! What — can the mat - ter be?

*mf cresc.*

He is late, ver - y late.

*mf cresc.*

36 *f* *mp*

John - ny's so long at the fair. He

*f*

John ny's so long at the fair, the fair. \_\_\_\_\_

*f*

John - ny's so long at the fair, the fair. \_\_\_\_\_

*f*

38

prom - ised to bring me a bas - ket of po - sies.

*mp*

*mp*

40

gar - land of lil - ies, a gift of red ros - es.

*mp*

A



42

that

lit - tle straw hat to set off the blue rib - bons that

that

44

tie up my bon - nie brown hair. *f*

tie up my bon - nie brown hair. Oh, *f*

tie up my bon - nie brown hair. *f*

46

*mp**cresc.*

Oh, dear! What can the mat - ter be? Dear, dear!

where, oh, where — has John - ny gone? Oh, where, oh, where can he

*mp**cresc.*

Oh, dear! What can the mat - ter be? Dear, dear!

49

What can the mat - ter be? Oh, dear! What can the mat - ter be?

be? I won - der where, oh, where — has John - ny gone? I

*f*

What can the mat - ter be? He is late, ver - y late!

52

John - ny's so long at the fair. He's so ver - y late for our  
 won - der where he could be! He's so ver - y late for our  
 John - ny's so long at the fair. He's so ver - y late for our

*sub. p* *grad. cresc.*

*sub. p* *grad. cresc.*

*sub. p* *grad. cresc.*

*sub. p* *grad. cresc.*

55

pre - ar - ranged date, John - ny's so ver - y long at the fair. You're late!  
 pre - ar - ranged date, John - ny's so ver - y long at the fair. You're late!  
 pre - ar - ranged date, John - ny's so ver - y long at the fair. You're late!

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*