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FJH STARTER SERIES

Grade 1/2

DIARY OF A GRUMPY ELF 'Twas the Week Before Christmas

Timothy Loest

Instrumentation

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 - Conductor's Full Score | 2 - Baritone/
Euphonium |
| 8 - Flute | 2 - Baritone T.C. |
| 2 - Oboe | 4 - Tuba |
| 2 - Bassoon | 2 - Bells |
| 10 - B $\flat$ Clarinet | 4 - Percussion 1
Snare Drum
Bass Drum |
| 2 - B $\flat$ Bass Clarinet | 4 - Percussion 2
Sleigh Bells
Crash Cymbals
Brake Drum
Cowbell |
| 4 - E $\flat$ Alto Saxophone | 1 - Narrator |
| 2 - B $\flat$ Tenor Saxophone | |
| 2 - E $\flat$ Baritone Saxophone | |
| 8 - B $\flat$ Trumpet | |
| 4 - F Horn | |
| 4 - Trombone | |

FJH is now using a high-speed sorting system for parts.

As a result, all single page parts are collated before multiple page parts.

T H E
F · J · H
M U S I C
C O M P A N Y
I N C.

Frank J. Hackinson

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The Composer

Timothy Loest is a name in instrumental music synonymous with creativity, versatility and accessibility. His works for band possess an imaginative, well-crafted style that resonates with performers and audiences worldwide.

Mr. Loest had his first work published in 1995. Today he is an exclusive composer and arranger for The FJH Music Company Inc. His bestselling FJH supplemental methods include Warm-ups and Beyond and Rhythms and Beyond. He is also co-writer of *Measures of Success®: A Comprehensive Musicianship Band Method*.

As a clinician, Mr. Loest delivers engaging and thought-provoking presentations on various aspects of instrumental music. He frequently guest conducts bands throughout the United States and regularly accepts commissions.

Mr. Loest received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from Illinois State University, and his Master of Music degree from Northwestern University. He holds membership in MENC, ASCAP, Illinois MEA, the Illinois Grade School Music Association, and the Christian Educators Association International.

Mr. Loest is band director at F.E. Peacock Middle School in Itasca, Illinois. An ASCAP award-winning composer, he strives to advance music education through his writing and teaching.

About the Music

Diary of a Grumpy Elf tells the story of Leon, a disgruntled Christmas elf who begins working for Santa just five days before Christmas. As Leon describes each difficult day, the band replies with a humorously arranged Christmas carol that provides a snapshot into Leon's miserable life. But in the end, Leon realizes that his work is important and that being a Christmas elf has its rewards.

Since this work contains the diary entries of an ornery elf, it is suggested that the narrator speak with a gruff, cantankerous voice. To really connect with the audience, the narrator should be a school administrator, teacher, or local celebrity. And for maximum effect, why not have the narrator wear an elf costume?

After playing the final cadence, it may be appropriate to have the narrator take a bow, followed by the entire ensemble. Best wishes as you learn and perform this yuletide story for band!

Narration:

DIARY OF A GRUMPY ELF

'Twas the week before Christmas...

Intro Music - Up On the Housetop

Day 1 *Dear Diary: It's me, Leon (that's Noel spelled backwards). It's the week before Christmas and today was my first day on the job. Today's temperature reached twenty-five degrees below zero. This heat wave put Santa in a bad mood...*

Jolly Old Saint Nicholas

Day 2 *Dear Diary: Today was my second day on the job. We made wooden soldiers. Instead of marching in step, the soldiers broke ranks, drew muskets, and began to fight...*

Parade of the Wooden Soldiers

Day 3 *Dear Diary: Today was my third day working for Mr. C and I got the never-ending job of decorating the castle. I never want to see another bough of holly as long as I live...*

Deck the Hall

Day 4 *Dear Diary: It's day four and the new reindeer harnesses arrived defective. Instead of having sleigh bells, they came with cowbells...*

Jingle Bells

Day 5 *Dear Diary: It's Christmas Eve and the work is finally done. In spite of the troubles, I'm lucky to be a Christmas elf. Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!*

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

DIARY OF A GRUMPY ELF

'Twas the Week Before Christmas

TIMOTHY LOEST
(ASCAP)

Bright (♩ = 112) **rit.** Narrator/
Day 1

Flute *mf*

Oboe *mf*

B♭ Clarinet *mf*

B♭ Bass Clarinet *mf*

E♭ Alto Saxophone *mf*

B♭ Tenor Saxophone *mf*

E♭ Baritone Saxophone *mf*

Bright (♩ = 112) **rit.** Narrator/
Day 1

B♭ Trumpet *mf*

F Horn *mf*

Trombone Baritone/
Euphonium Bassoon *mf*

Tuba *mf*

Bells (w/ acrylic mallets) *mf*

Percussion 1 (Snare Drum, Bass Drum) *mf*

Percussion 2 (Sleigh Bells, Crash Cymbals, Brake Drum, Cowbell) *mf*

Sleigh Bells *mf*

Cr. Cym.

2 3 4 5

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6 In a huff! (♩ = 88)
Jolly Old Saint Nicholas

Fl. *f*

Ob. *f*

Cl. *f*

B. Cl. *f*

A. Sax. *f*

T. Sax. *f*

B. Sax. *f*

6 In a huff! (♩ = 88)
Jolly Old Saint Nicholas

Tpt. *f*

Hn. *f*

Tbn. Bar./ Euph. Bsn. *f*

Tuba *f*

Bells *f*

Perc. 1 *f*

Brake Drum (w/hard plastic mallet) Cr. Cym.

Perc. 2

6 7 8 9 10

f

B1482

rit. battle – open repeat whistle at random from high to low Narrator/ Day 3

Fl. *ff* whistle at random from high to low

Ob. *ff* whistle at random from high to low

Cl. *ff* whistle at random from high to low

B. Cl. *ff* whistle at random from high to low

A. Sax. *ff* whistle at random from high to low

T. Sax. *ff* whistle at random from high to low

B. Sax. *ff* whistle at random from high to low

rit. battle – open repeat whistle at random from high to low Narrator/ Day 3

Tpt. *ff* whistle at random from high to low

Hn. *ff* whistle at random from high to low

Tbn. Bar./ Euph. Bsn. *ff* whistle at random from high to low

Tuba *ff* whistle at random from high to low

Bells *ff* whistle at random from high to low

Perc. 1 B.D. on cue w/hard mallet strike one or more B.D. sporadically *ff*

Perc. 2 whistle at random from high to low *ff*

21 22 23 24 25

26 **Disgruntled** (♩ = 80)

Deck the Hall

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Cl. *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Sax. *mf* div.

T. Sax. *mf*

B. Sax. *mf*

26 **Disgruntled** (♩ = 80)
Deck the Hall

Tpt. *mf*

Hn. *mf*

Tbn. Bar./ Euph. Bsn. *mf*

Tuba *mf*

Bells *mf*

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2 *mf* Cr. Cym. Br. D.

26 27 28 29

B1482

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.
Bar/
Euph.
Bsn.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

35 36 37 38 39

f

Narrator/
Day 5

42 **Bright** (♩ = 112)
We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn. Bar/
Euph.
Bsn.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Tbn. gliss.

Sl. Bells

40 *sfz* 41 42 *f* 43 44

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.
Bar/
Euph.
Bsn.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Cr. Cym.

div.

45 46 47 48 49

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.
Bar./
Euph.
Bsn.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

50 51 52 53 54