The Night Before Christmas

A poem by Clement Clarke Moore

Adapted for Santa and Piano by John M. Chilson



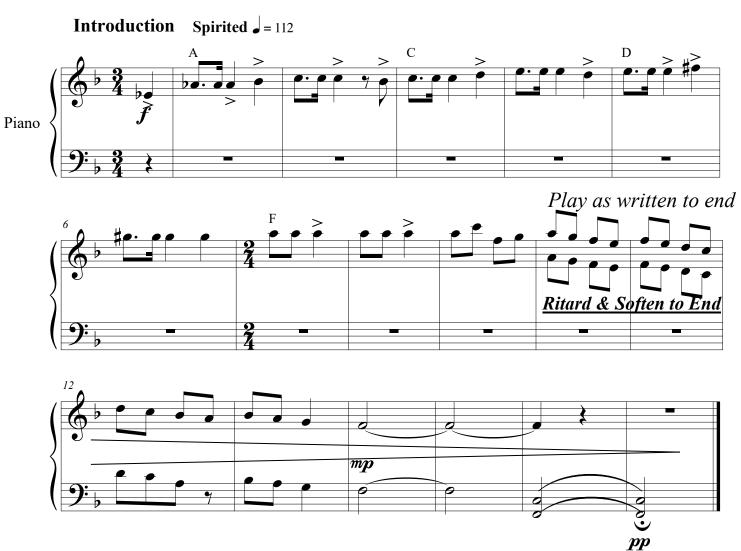
For Santa and Pianist

Poem by Clement Clarke Moore, updated and Music Arranged by John M. Chilson based on Orchestral Arrangement by Jack Bullock

Notes to Santa: This poem has been edited so as to be read in the first person by Santa Claus. In front of a large group, don't hesitate to slightly "over-act" with bigger, broader motions of your arms and hands so that they will be seen by all.

Don't read, **ACT!** Santa is sharing a story of his experience and his emotions. Enjoy the telling of it. Keep your entrances crisp and don't let the performance drag at any place.

Notes to Pianist: Disregard ALL rests BEFORE the first note of any section, come in quickly. Due to software limitations I cannot start each section with a pickup measure. Play the glissandos **immediately** after Santa's text that is underlined. See Section 5 for an example. Feel free to "ham it up" a bit and to add musical humor wherever it fits. Have fun!



1) Twas the night before Christmas, and 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 (me) soon would be there.

Jolly Old St. Nicholas



2) The children were nestled all snug in their beds, While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads;

Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy



3) And Mama in her nightgown and Papa and the cat, Had just settled down for a long winter's nap.

Rock A-Bye Baby



4) When out on the lawn, there arose such a clatter.

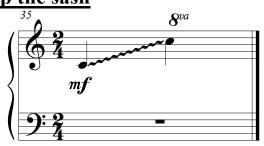
Papa sprang from his bed to see what was the matter.

Star Wars Theme



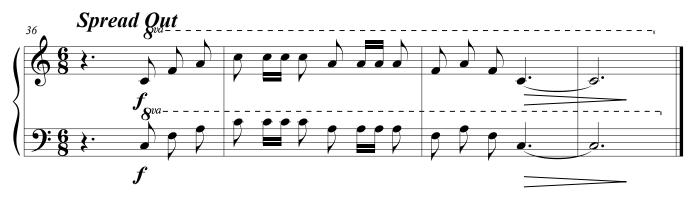
5) Away to the window he flew like a flash,

Tore open the curtains and threw up the sash



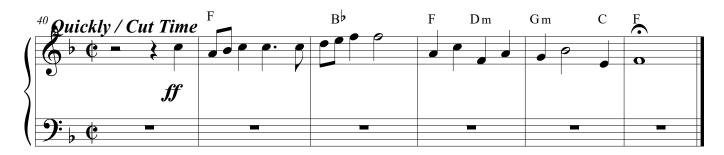
6) When what to Papa's wondering eyes should appear, But a beautiful sleigh and nine powerful reindeer.

First Call



7) With a little old driver, so lively and quick, He knew in a moment it must be me, St. Nick.

Santa Claus Is Coming to Town



8) More rapid than eagles my reindeer they came, and I whistled, and shouted, and called them by name;
"Now Rudolph, now Dasher and Dancer!
Now Prancer and Vixen!
On Comet! On Cupid!
On Donner and Blitzen!

Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer



9) To the top of the porch! To the top of the wall!

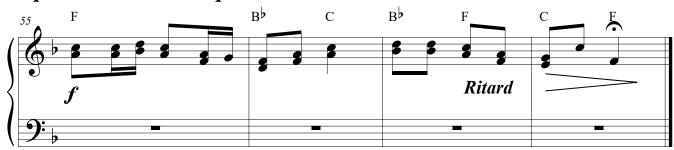
Now dash away! Dash away! Dash away all!"

William Tell Overture



10) So up to the house-top the reindeer they flew, With a sleigh full of toys, and me, St. Nicholas, too.

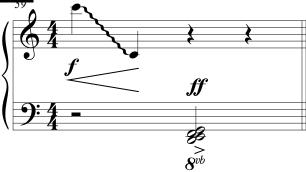
Up On The Housetop



11) And then, in a twinkling, Papa heard on the roof The prancing and pawing of each reindeer hoof.

PIANO: Galloping rhythm using hands on keyboard cover

12) As Papa drew in his head and was turning around, Down the chimney I came with a bound.



13) I was dressed all in fur, from my head to my foot, And my clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot;

Chim Chim Cher-ee from Mary Poppins



14) A bundle of toys I had flung on my back,
And I looked like a peddler just opening his pack.





My eyes - how they twinkle! My dimples - how merry!
My cheeks are like roses, My nose like a cherry!
My droll little mouth draws up like a bow,
And the beard on my chin is as white as the snow.

Here Comes Santa Claus

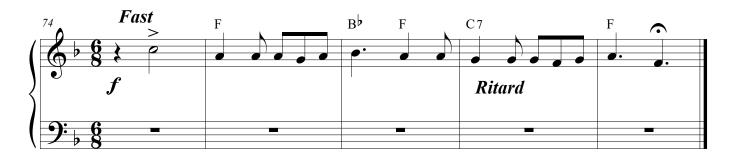


I have a broad face and a big round belly,
That shakes when I laugh like a bowlful of jelly.

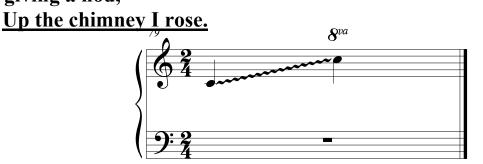
Santa: Ho Ho Ho HO!

17) I am chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And Papa laughed when he saw me, in spite of himself;
A wink of my eye and a twist of my head,
Soon gave him to know he had nothing to dread.

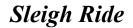
For He's A Jolly Good Fellow

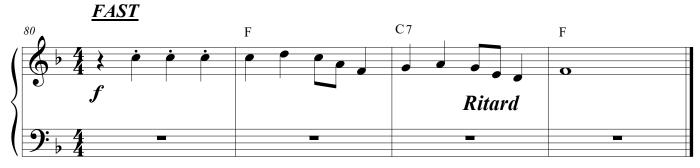


18) I spoke not a word, but went straight to my work,
And filled all the stockings;
Then turned with a jerk,
And laying my finger aside of my nose,
And giving a nod,



19) I sprang to my sleigh, To my team gave a whistle, And away we all flew like the down of a thistle.





20) And Papa heard me exclaim, as we drove out of sight, "Merry Christmas to all, and to ALL a Good-Night!"

We Wish You A Merry Christmas

