

# When The Bells Ring

For SATB Voices, Keyboard and Handbells

Mary Kay Beall

JOHN CARTER  
(ASCAP)

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). It features three systems of music. The first system includes Handbells (L.V. *mf*), a keyboard accompaniment (*mf*), and a vocal line. The second system features a vocal line with lyrics, a keyboard accompaniment, and a handbell part with a 'GYRO RING' instruction. The third system continues the vocal line with lyrics, a keyboard accompaniment, and a handbell part. The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics, articulation marks, and performance instructions.

**HANDBELLS** L.V. *mf* RING

*mf*

**SA unison** *mf*

It was a small town, and ver - y long a - go;

**GYRO RING\***

**SATB unison**

It was a dark night and stars were all a-glow. But in a sta - ble.

\*GYRO RING: after ringing bells in normal fashion, continue arm motion in a counter-clockwise direction, describing a letter "C" in the air in front of the ringer's face, thus:

*cresc.*

— up-on a man-ger bed, A lit-tle babe, a tin-y babe— would lay his

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves of the vocal line. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The music begins with a *cresc.* marking. The lyrics are: "— up-on a man-ger bed, A lit-tle babe, a tin-y babe— would lay his".

*cresc.*

Detailed description: This system contains the first staff of the piano accompaniment. It is in treble clef and features a *cresc.* marking. The music consists of chords and some melodic fragments.

*cresc.*

9 10 11

Detailed description: This system contains the second and third staves of the piano accompaniment. It is in treble and bass clefs. The *cresc.* marking continues. Measure numbers 9, 10, and 11 are indicated below the bass staff.

*f*

head. And when the bells ring,— it will be Christ-mas morn; And when the

Detailed description: This system contains the third and fourth staves of the vocal line. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The music is marked *f*. The lyrics are: "head. And when the bells ring,— it will be Christ-mas morn; And when the".

L.V.  $\oplus$  *f* RING L.V.

Detailed description: This system contains the fourth staff of the piano accompaniment. It is in treble clef. The music is marked *f* and includes the instruction "RING" with a circled plus sign. The letters "L.V." appear at the beginning and end of the staff.

*f*

12 13 14

Detailed description: This system contains the fifth and sixth staves of the piano accompaniment. It is in treble and bass clefs. The music is marked *f*. Measure numbers 12, 13, and 14 are indicated below the bass staff.

bells ring, I'll know the King is born; And when the star shines— it will be

⊕ RING

15 16 17

bright to see,  
bright — to see, And then I'll know the King of kings was born for me.

18 19 20

*pp*  
Now-ell, now -

*unison mf*  
It was a small town,

*decresc. and slowing*

*decresc. and slowing* *mf*

21 22 23 24

ell, Now ell, now - ell, Now-ell, Now - ell, shep-herds knelt to  
and ver - y far a-way; It was a dark night and shep-herds knelt to pray.

(Prepare bells for A major)

25 26 27

*unison* *cresc.*

pray. But kings would fol - low \_\_\_\_\_ the star so bright a -bove to find the babe, the tin - y

*cresc.*

28 29 30

babe, the gift of love.

*f*

31 32 33