



# When the Frost Is on the Punkin

Tim Cahalan

SA and Piano

Executive Artistic Director & Editor Joshua Pedde  
Curriculum Manager & Editor Leeann Starkey





Tim Cahalan recently retired as choir director at Logansport High School, Logansport Junior High School, and Logansport Intermediate School in Logansport, Indiana. He was also the founder and director, from 1988 to 2023, of the Logansport Children's Choir, which has performed at state and regional conferences of NAFME, ACDA, and the Organization of American Kodaly Educators, and has toured extensively in the United States and Europe. Mr. Cahalan received his BME from Indiana University and an MM degree from Butler University. He is a frequent clinician for choral festivals at the elementary, middle school, and high school levels. In 2002 and 2008, Mr. Cahalan directed the Indiana All State Children's Honor Choir, and in 2009 was selected as the outstanding High School Music Educator for the State of Indiana. He resides in Logansport with his wife and choir accompanist, Susan. His arrangements and compositions have been published by the Indianapolis Children's Choir Publishing House, E.C. Schirmer, and Colla Voce.

James Whitcomb Riley (1849-1916) was an American writer, poet, and best-selling author. During his lifetime, he was known as the "Hoosier Poet" and "Children's Poet". The majority of his poems were written in the rural Indiana dialect of his time. "When the Frost Is on the Punkin'" is one of his best-loved poems and was once very well known by the school children of Indiana and beyond.

Vocal Ranges in this composition



The Indianapolis Children's Choir (ICC) and Beckenhorst Press are thrilled to announce the launch of the Indianapolis Children's Choir Publishing House (ICCPH), a partnership that began in January 2022. Beckenhorst Press exclusively distributes and sells ICCPH's new repertoire and educational materials for Preschool-12th grade choirs. Under the leadership of Executive Artistic Director & Editor Joshua Pedde and Curriculum Manager & Editor Leann Starkey, ICC's publishing arm releases digital choral music and educational resources for children's and youth choirs of all ages, levels, and voicings. These publications can be viewed and purchased on their dedicated page on the Beckenhorst website, accessible by clicking the "ICC" logo in the top left corner of the site.



# When the Frost Is on the Punkin

SA and Piano

James Whitcomb Riley  
Tim Cahalan (additional text)

Tim Cahalan

Lilting, ♩ = 100 (♩ =  $\overset{\sim}{\underset{\sim}{\text{J}}}$ )

Unison or Soprano  
*mf*

SA

Piano  
*mf*

5

frost is on the pun - kin and the fod - der's in the shock, And you

*mp*

7

hear the kyoo and gob - ble of the strut - tin' tur - key cock, And the

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9  
clack - in' of the gui - neys, and the cluck - in' of the hens, And the roost - er's hal - ly - loo - yer as he

12  
tip - toes on the fence; O, it's then's the time a fel - ler as a - feel - s at his best, With the

15  
ris - in' sun to greet m m a night of peace - ful rest, As he

leaves the house bare - head - ed and goes out to feed the stock, When the

The image shows a musical score for the song "When the Frost Is on the Punkin". It consists of four systems of music. Each system includes a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff with treble and bass clefs). The lyrics are written below the vocal line. A large, diagonal watermark reading "Preview Copy" is overlaid across the entire page. The page number "4" is in the top left, and the title "When the Frost Is on the Punkin" is centered at the top. Measure numbers 9, 12, and 15 are placed at the beginning of their respective systems.

19

frost is on the pun-kin and the fod - der's in the shock.

*mf*

*Unison or Alto*  
23 *mf*

I love the au - tumn at - mos - phere, Hot sum - mer's ov - er is here. Of

*mp*

27

course we miss the flow - ers and gen - tle breeze; The mum - ble of the hum - min' birds and

*mp*

31

buzzin' of the bees. But au - tumn's my fav' - rite time of year; Leaves pret - ty col - ors

*mp*

34

bring good cheer: col - ors paint - ers can - not mock, When the frost is on the pun - kin and the

38

S  
fod - der's in the shock.

A  
fod - der's in the shock. *mf* They's

41 *mf*

I ve the au - tumn at - - mos - phere,

some - thing kind - o' har - ty - like a - bout the at - mus - fere, When the

*mf*

43

Hot sum - mer's o - ver the cool is here. Of course we miss the flow - ers and  
heat of sum - mer's ov - er and the cool - in' fall is here. Of course we miss the flow - ers and the

46

gen - - tle breeze, The mum - ble of the hum - min' birds and  
blos - sums on the trees, And the hum - ble of the hum - min' birds and

48

z - zin' of the bees; But au - tumn's my fav' - rite  
z - zin' of the bees; But the air's so ap - pe - tiz - in'; and the

50

time of year; Leaves pret - ty col - ors

land - scape through the haze Of a crisp and sun - ny morn - ing of the

52

bring good cheer: Col - ors paint - er - not mock, When the

air - ly au-tumn days, Is a pic - tur' that no pain - er has the col' - or - in' to mock, When the

55

is on the pun - kin and the fod - der's in the shock! The frost on the pun - kin means

is on the pun - kin and the fod - der's in the shock! The frost on the pun - kin means

*mp*

*mp*

*p*

58

The musical score consists of three staves. The top two staves are vocal parts in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics 'fall is here!' are written below the notes. The first vocal staff has a dynamic marking of *ff* above the final note. The piano accompaniment is on the bottom two staves (treble and bass clef). It begins with a dynamic marking of *f*. The piano part features a series of eighth notes in the right hand and chords in the left hand.

Preview Copy