

The Night Before Christmas

Fantasia for Clarinet Quintet & Narrator

Text: Clement C. Moore
A Visit from St. Nicholas

David Bussick

Peacefully (♩ = 52)

Narrator



*Each text segment should begin approximately where indicated.
Mood, volume, and tempo of the reading should mirror that of the musical accompaniment.



Clarinet in E♭

1st Clarinet in B♭

2nd Clarinet in B♭

3rd Clarinet in B♭

Bass Clarinet in B♭

1

2

rall.

3 a tempo

4 a tempo

rall.

Musical score for measures 4-5 of 'The Night Before Christmas'. The score consists of five staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. Measure 4 starts with a dynamic of *mp*, followed by *pp*, *ppp*, and *pp*. Measure 5 starts with *p*, followed by *pp*, *pp*, and *pp*. The music includes various articulations like slurs, grace notes, and dynamic markings.

'Twas the night before Christmas,
when all through the house

Not a creature was stirring,
not even a mouse;

5 The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;

Musical score for measures 6-7 of 'The Night Before Christmas'. The score consists of five staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. Measures 6 and 7 feature eighth-note patterns and sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 7 concludes with a dynamic of *ppp* followed by *p*.

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

Musical score for page 4, measures 6-7. The score consists of five staves of music for a string quartet. Measure 6 starts with a single eighth note on the top staff, followed by eighth-note pairs on the second and third staves. Measure 7 begins with a sixteenth-note pattern on the first staff, followed by eighth-note pairs on the second and third staves.

7

Musical score for page 4, measures 7-8. The score continues with five staves of music for a string quartet. Measure 7 concludes with a sixteenth-note pattern on the first staff, followed by eighth-note pairs on the second and third staves. Measure 8 begins with a sixteenth-note pattern on the first staff, followed by eighth-note pairs on the second and third staves.

rit.

8 a tempo

And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,
Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap,

Musical score for measures 8-9. The score consists of five staves. Measure 8 starts with a dynamic *p* and ends with a dynamic *pp*. Measure 9 begins with a dynamic *pp*, followed by *pp*, *pp*, *mp*, and *pp* dynamics. The vocal line includes various slurs and grace notes. The piano accompaniment features eighth-note patterns and sixteenth-note chords.

9

When out on the lawn
there arose such a clatter,

Musical score for measure 9. The vocal line begins with a dynamic *pp* and continues with *pp*, *mp*, *mp*, *p*, *mp*, *pp*, *mp*, *p*, *mp*, *p*, *mp*, and *f* dynamics. The piano accompaniment features eighth-note patterns and sixteenth-note chords, with dynamics including *pp*, *mp*, *p*, *mp*, *f*, *p*, *mp*, *f*, *mp*, *f*, *p*, and *f*.

10 Quicker ($\text{♩} = 62$)

I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.

Musical score for section 10 of "The Night Before Christmas". The score consists of five staves of music for a single instrument. The key signature changes between G major (two sharps) and F# major (one sharp). The tempo is indicated as $\text{♩} = 62$. The dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *mf* (mezzo-forte) in the middle section. The lyrics "I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter." are written above the staff.

11 Away to the window I flew like a flash,

Musical score for section 11 of "The Night Before Christmas". The score consists of five staves of music for a single instrument. The key signature changes between G major (two sharps) and F# major (one sharp). The dynamics include *f* (fortissimo), *f* (fortissimo), *f* (fortissimo), and *f* (fortissimo). The lyrics "Away to the window I flew like a flash," are written above the staff.

Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.

12 The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow
Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below,

13 When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny reindeer,

14 $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$ With a little old driver, so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.

Musical score for measure 14, featuring five staves of music. The score includes dynamics (p, pp, mp) and time signature changes (2/4, 4/4). The lyrics "With a little old driver, so lively and quick, I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick." are provided above the staff.

rall. **15** Fast and light ($\text{♩} = 108$)

Musical score for measure 15, featuring five staves of music. The score includes dynamics (p, mp, mf) and a rallentando instruction (rall.). The lyrics "Fast and light" and the tempo marking "♩ = 108" are provided above the staff.

More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name;

16

Musical score for page 16, featuring five staves of music for a wind ensemble. The music consists of six measures. Measure 1: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, dynamic f. Measures 2-3: Dynamics mf. Measures 4-5: Dynamics f. Measure 6: Dynamics mf.

"Now, Dasher! Now, Dancer! Now, Prancer and Vixen!

17

On, Comet! On, Cupid! On, Donder and Blitzen!

Musical score for page 17, featuring five staves of music for a wind ensemble. The music consists of six measures. Measure 1: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp, dynamic mf. Measures 2-3: Dynamics f. Measures 4-5: Dynamics f. Measures 6: Dynamics f.