

# The Bells

*For 3 Bass Voices*  
*3m40s*

Music by  
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Text by  
EDGAR ALLEN POE

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# The Bells

Text by Edgar Allan Poe

Dylan Needleman

I

Driving, with motion (♩ = 72)

*mf*

Hear the sled-ges with the bells Sil-ver bells What a world of merr-i-ment their

*mf*

Hear the sled-ges with the bells

This system contains the first three measures of the song. It features three staves in bass clef with a key signature of two flats and a 2/4 time signature. The melody is in the top staff, with lyrics underneath. The piano accompaniment is in the bottom two staves. Dynamics include *mf* and accents.

*Make your voice more speech-like,  
like the tinkling of bells*

4

me - lo - dy fore-tells How they tin - kle tin - kle tin - kle In the i - cy air of night While the

Sil - ver bells What a world of merr - i - ment their me - lo - dy fore-tells How they

*mf*

Hear the sled-ges with the bells Sil - ver bells

This system contains measures 4 through 6. It continues the melody and accompaniment. Dynamics include *mf* and accents. The instruction 'Make your voice more speech-like, like the tinkling of bells' is written above the melody in measure 5.

7

stars that o - ver-sprin-kle All the hea-vens seem to twin-kle With a crys-tall-ine de-light Keep-ing

*Make your voice more speech-like,  
like the tinkling of bells*

tin - kle tin - kle tin - kle In the i - cy air of night While the stars that o - ver-sprin-kle All the

*Make your voice more speech-like,  
like the tinkling of bells*

What a world of merr - i - ment their me - lo - dy fore-tells How they tin - kle tin - kle tin - kle In the

This system contains measures 7 through 9. It continues the melody and accompaniment. Dynamics include *f* and accents. The instruction 'Make your voice more speech-like, like the tinkling of bells' is written above the melody in measures 7 and 9.

time time time in a sort of Run-ic rhyme to the tin-tin - a - bu - la - tion that so

hea-vens seem to twin-kle With a crys-tall-ine de-light Keep-ing time time time in a

i - cy air of night While the stars that o - ver-sprin-kle All the hea-vens seem to twin-kle With a

mu - si - cal - ly wells From the bells bells bells bells bells bells bells From the

sort of Run-ic rhyme to the tin-tin - a - bu - la - tion that so mu - si - cal - ly wells From the

crys-tall-ine de-light Keep-ing time time time in a sort of Run-ic rhyme to the

*mf*

jing-ling and the tink-ling of the bells Hear the mel-low wedd-ing bells

bells bells bells bells bells bells bells From the jing-ling and the tink-ling of the

tin-tin - a - bu - la - tion that so mu - si - cal - ly wells From the bells bells bells bells

*f*

**II**

19

gol - den bells      What a world of happ - i - ness their      har - mo - ny fore - tells Through the

bells      Hear the      mel - low wedd - ing bells      gol - den bells

bells bells bells From the      jing - ling and the tink - ling of the      bells      Hear the

22

bal - my air of night how they      ring out their de - light from the      mol - ten gol - den notes And all in

*mf* What a world of happ - i - ness their      har - mo - ny fore - tells Through the      bal - my air of night how they

mel - low wedd - ing bells      gol - den bells      What a world of happ - i - ness their

25

tune      What a      li - quid dit - ty floats      To the      tur - tle dove that li - stens while she

ring out their de - light from the      mol - ten gol - den notes And all in      tune      What a

har - mo - ny fore - tells Through the      bal - my air of night      how they      ring out their de - light      from the

gloats on the moon Oh from out the sound-ing cells What a gush of eu-pho-ny vo -

li-quad dit - ty floats To the tur-tle dove that li-stens while she gloats on the moon Oh from

mol-ten gol-den notes And all in tune What a li-quad dit - ty floats To the

31

lu - mi-nous - ly wells How it swells How it dwells On the fu-ture how it tells of the

out the sound-ing cells What a gush of eu-pho-ny vo - lu - mi-nous - ly wells How it

tur-tle dove that li-stens while she gloats on the moon Oh from out the sound-ing cells

34

rap-ture that im-pels To the swinging and the ring-ing of the bells bells bells Of the

swells How it dwells On the fu-ture how it tells of the rap-ture that im-pels To the

What a gush of eu-pho-ny vo - lu - mi-nous - ly wells How it swells How it dwells On the

37

bells bells bells bells bells bells bells bells bells To the bells bells bells bells

swinging and the ring-ing of the bells bells bells Of the bells bells bells bells bells bells bells bells

fu-ture how it tells of the rap-ture that im-pels To the swinging and the ring-ing of the bells bells bells Of the

41

bells bells bells To the bells bells bells bells bells bells bells To the rhy-ming and the chim-ing of the

bells bells bells To the bells bells bells bells bells bells bells To the rhy-ming and the chim-ing of the

bells bells bells bells bells bells bells To the rhy-ming and the chim-ing of the

## III

45

*Whispered*  
*f* *mf* *f* *mf*

bells Hear the loud a-la-rum bells Bra-zen bells What tale of ter-ror now their tur-bu-len-cy tells In the

*Whispered*  
*f* *mf* *f* *mf*

bells Hear the loud a-la-rum bells Bra-zen bells What tale of ter-ror now their tur-bu-len-cy tells In the

*Speak on pitch*  
*Sotto Voce*  
*f* *pp* *f* *mf*

bells Hear the loud a-la-rum bells Bra-zen bells What tale of ter-ror now their tur-bu-len-cy tells In the

start-led ear of Night How they scream out their af-fright Too much horr - i - fied to speak They can

start-led ear of Night How they scream out their af-fright Too much horr - i - fied to speak They can

start-led ear of Night How they scream out their af-fright Too much horr - i - fied to speak They can

on - ly shriek shriek Out of tune In a clam-er-ous ap-pea-ling to the mer-cy of the fire In a

on - ly shriek shriek Out of tune In a clam-er-ous ap-pea-ling to the mer-cy of the fire In a

on - ly shriek shriek Out of tune In a clam-er-ous ap-pea-ling to the mer-cy of the fire In a

mad ex-pos-tu-la-tion with the deaf and fran-tic fire Leap-ing high-er high-er hi-gher with a des-per-ate de-sire And a

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mad ex-pos-tu-la-tion with the deaf and fran-tic fire Leap-ing high-er high-er hi-gher with a des-per-ate de-sire And a

61

re-so-lute en-dea-vor Now now to sit or ne-ver by the side of the pale faced moon Oh the bells bells bells What a

re-so-lute en-dea-vor Now now to sit or ne-ver by the side of the pale faced moon Oh the bells bells bells What a

re-so-lute en-dea-vor Now now to sit or ne-ver by the side of the pale faced moon Oh the bells bells bells What a

*f* > > >

66

tale their ter-ror tells of des-pair How they clang and clash and roar What a hor-ror they out-pour In the

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tale their ter-ror tells of des-pair How they clang and clash and roar What a hor-ror they out-pour In the

*mf* *mf* *mf*

70

bo-som of the pal-pi-ta-ting air Yet the ear it ful-ly knows By the twang-ing and the clang-ing How the

bo-som of the pal-pi-ta-ting air Yet the ear it ful-ly knows By the twang-ing and the clang-ing How the

bo-som of the pal-pi-ta-ting air Yet the ear it ful-ly knows By the twang-ing and the clang-ing How the

*mp* *mp* *mp*



dan-ger ebbs and flows Yes the ear dis-tinct-ly tells In the jang-ling And the wrang-ling How the

dan-ger sinks and swells By the sink-ing or the swell-ing in the an-ger of the bells Of the bells Of the

bells bells bells bells bells bells bells In the clamor and the clang-or of the bells Hear the

Slowly vocalize more until full

mf

Slowly vocalize more until full

mf

Slowly vocalize more until full

mf

## IV

Slower, held back ( $\text{♩} = 64$ )

86

toll-ing of the bells I - ron bells What a world of sol-emn thought their mo-no-dy com-pells In the

toll-ing of the bells I - ron bells What a world of sol-emn thought their mo-no-dy com-pells In the

toll-ing of the bells bells bells What a world of sol - emn thought In the

90

*Mouthed*  
*pp* *mf*

si-lence of the night How we shi-ver with af-fright At the me-lan-cho-ly mean-ing of the tone For

*Whispered*  
*pp* *mf*

si-lence of the night How we shi-ver with af-fright At the me-lan-cho-ly mean-ing of the tone For

*Mouthed*  
*pp* *mf*

si-lence of the night How we shi - ver At the me - lan - cho - ly tone For

a tempo ( $\text{♩} = 72$ )

94

ev-ery sound that floats From the rust with-in their throats Is a groan And the peo-ple ah the peo-ple They that

ev-ery sound that floats From the rust with-in their throats Is a groan And the peo-ple ah the peo-ple They that

ev - ery sound From the rust Is a groan And the peo - ple in the

dwell up in the stee-ple All a-lone And who toll-ing toll-ing toll-ing In that muff-led mo-no-tone Feel a

*Whispered*

dwell up in the stee-ple All a-lone And who toll-ing toll-ing toll-ing In that muff-led mo-no-tone Feel a

*Mouthed*

stee - ple All a-lone And who toll - ling In that muff-led mo-no-tone Feel a

glo-ry in so roll-ing On the hu-man heart a stone They are nei-ther man nor wo-man They are

glo-ry in so roll-ing On the hu-man heart a stone They are nei-ther man nor wo-man They are

glo-ry in so roll-ing On the hu-man heart a stone They

**Faster, with urgency (♩ = 80)**

are Ghouls And their king it is who tolls And he rolls rolls rolls rolls A

are Ghouls And their king it is who tolls And he rolls rolls rolls rolls A

are Ghouls And their king tolls And he rolls rolls rolls rolls A

109

Pae-an from the bells And his mer-ry bos-om swells With the Pae an of the bells And he dan-ces and he yells Keep-ing  
 Pae-an from the bells And his mer-ry bos-om swells With the Pae an of the bells And he dan-ces and he yells Keep-ing  
 Pae-an from the bells And his bos - om swells With the Pae-an of the bells And he dan-ces and he yells Keep-ing

Dynamic markings: *ff*, *f*

113

time time time In a sort of Ru-nic rhyme To the Pae an of the bells of the bells Keep-ing time time time In a  
 time time time in a sort of Run-ic rhyme To the Pae an of the bells of the bells Keep-ing time time time in a  
 time time time in a sort of Run-ic rhyme To the Pae-an of the bells Of the bells Keep-ing time time time in a

Dynamic markings: *mf*, *f*

118

sort of Ru-nic rhyme To the throb-bing of the bells Of the bells bells bells To the sobb-ing of the bells Keep-ing  
 sort of Run-ic rhyme To the throb-bing of the bells Of the bells bells bells To the sobb-ing of the bells Keep-ing  
 sort of Run-ic rhyme To the throb - bing bells bells bells To the sobb - ing bells Keep-ing

Dynamic markings: *f*

122

time time time As he knells knells knells In a hap-py Ru-nic rhyme To the roll-ing of the bells Of the

time time time As he knells knells knells In a hap-py Run-ic rhyme To the roll-ing of the bells Of the

time time time as he knells\_\_\_\_\_ in a hap-py Run-ic rhyme To the roll - ing

126

bells bells bells To the toll-ing of the bells Of the bells bells bells bells bells bells bells bells To the

bells bells bells To the roll-ing of the bells Of the bells bells bells bells bells bells bells bells To the

bells bells bells To the toll - ing Of the bells bells bells bells bells bells bells bells To the

130

moan - ing and the groan - ing of the bells

moan - ing and the groan ing of the bells

moan - ing and the groan - ing of the bells