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MORTIMER

STORY • ROBERT MUNSCH
ART • MICHAEL MARTCHENKO

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To Billy,
Sheila, and
Kathleen
Cronin

One night Mortimer's mother took him upstairs to go to bed—

thump thump thump thump thump thump.

When they got upstairs Mortimer's mother opened the door to his room.

She threw him into bed and said,

"MORTIMER, BE QUIET."

Mortimer shook his head, yes.

The mother shut the door.
Then she went back down the stairs—
thump thump thump thump thump.

As soon as she got back downstairs
Mortimer sang,

Clang, clang, rattle-bing-bang
Gonna make my noise all day.
Clang, clang, rattle-bing-bang
Gonna make my noise all day.

Mortimer's father heard all that noise.
He came up the stairs—

thump thump thump thump thump.

He opened the door and yelled,

"MORTIMER, BE QUIET."

Mortimer shook his head, yes.

The father went back down the stairs—
thump thump thump thump thump.

As soon as he got to the bottom of the stairs Mortimer sang,

Clang, clang, rattle-bing-bang
Gonna make my noise all day.
Clang, clang, rattle-bing-bang
Gonna make my noise all day.

All of Mortimer's seventeen brothers and sisters heard that noise, and they all came up the stairs—

thump thump thump thump thump.

They opened the door and yelled in a tremendous, loud voice,

"MORTIMER, BE QUIET."

Mortimer shook his head, yes.

The brothers and sisters shut the door
and went downstairs—
thump thump thump thump thump.

As soon as they got to the bottom of
the stairs Mortimer sang,

Clang, clang, rattle-bing-bang
Gonna make my noise all day.
Clang, clang, rattle-bing-bang
Gonna make my noise all day.

They got so upset that they called the police. Two policemen came and they walked very slowly up the stairs—

thump thump thump thump thump thump.

They opened the door and said in very deep, policemen-type voices,

"MORTIMER, BE QUIET."

The policemen shut the door and went back down the stairs—
thump thump thump thump thump.

As soon as they got to the bottom of the stairs Mortimer sang,

Clang, clang, rattle-bing-bang
Gonna make my noise all day.
Clang, clang, rattle-bing-bang
Gonna make my noise all day.

Well, downstairs no one knew what to do.
The mother got into a big fight with the policemen.
The father got into a big fight with the brothers and sisters.

Upstairs, Mortimer got so tired waiting for someone to come up that he fell asleep.

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