



# Night in a Manger

for 3-Octave  
Handbell choir

by

**Matt Johnson**

[www.MattJohnsonMusic.com](http://www.MattJohnsonMusic.com)

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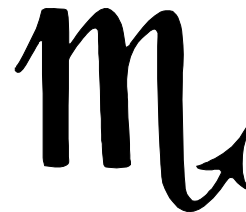


## COMPOSER'S NOTES

- *This arrangement overlaps two familiar carols—Silent Night and Away In A Manger...thus, the title.*
- *When practicing this piece, the limitations of the notation will become evident. Performers should pay close attention to melodic overlaps and notes that simply provide harmonic flow.*
- *The engraving of this work was done by the composer.*

Namaste,

Matt Johnson



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# NIGHT IN A MANGER

3 Octaves  
Bells Needed: 32



arranged by MATT JOHNSON  
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♩ = 100-120

2 3 4

*mp*

LVUHC (simile ties)

5 6 7 8

*mf*

*p*

*mp* LVUHC

9 10 11 12

*mf*

*p*

LVUHC

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13 14 15 16

*mf* *p* *mp*

This system contains measures 13 through 16. Measure 13 starts with a *mf* dynamic. Measure 14 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 15 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 16 has a *mp* dynamic. The music is in a piano style with a bass line of single notes and a treble line of chords and single notes.

17 18 19 20

*mf* *p*

This system contains measures 17 through 20. Measure 17 starts with a *mf* dynamic. Measure 18 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 19 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 20 has a *p* dynamic. The music continues with similar piano textures.

21 22 23 24 25 26

*mf* *p* *mp*

This system contains measures 21 through 26. Measure 21 starts with a *mf* dynamic. Measure 24 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 26 has a *mp* dynamic. The music continues with similar piano textures.

27 28 29 30 31 32

*mf* *p*

This system contains measures 27 through 32. Measure 27 starts with a *mf* dynamic. Measure 30 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 32 has a *p* dynamic. The music continues with similar piano textures.

33 34 35 36 *p* 37 38

*mf*  
*mp*

39 40 41 *mp* 42

*mf*  
*mp*

43 44 45 46

*f*  
*decresc.*

**R**  
47 48 49 50

*mp*  
LV LV LVUHC

51 52 53 54

LV

Detailed description: This system contains measures 51 through 54. The treble clef staff features a melodic line with quarter and eighth notes, while the bass clef staff provides a simple harmonic accompaniment. Measure 54 concludes with a fermata over a whole note chord. A 'LV' (Lento Vivace) marking is positioned below the bass staff at the end of the system.

55 56 57 58

LV

Detailed description: This system contains measures 55 through 58. Measures 55-57 feature a more complex melodic line in the treble clef with slurs and ties. The bass clef continues with a steady accompaniment. Measure 58 shows a change in the bass line. A 'LV' marking is located below the bass staff at the end of the system.

59 60 61 62

LV LV LV

Detailed description: This system contains measures 59 through 62. The treble clef staff is characterized by chords and chordal textures, with some notes beamed together. The bass clef has a simple accompaniment. 'LV' markings are placed below the bass staff at the beginning of measures 59, 61, and 62.

63 64 65 66

LV LV LV LV

Detailed description: This system contains measures 63 through 66. Measures 63-64 continue the chordal texture. Measure 65 features a fermata over a whole note chord in the bass clef. Measure 66 has a melodic flourish in the treble clef with slurs and accents. 'LV' markings are placed below the bass staff at the beginning of measures 63, 64, 65, and 66.

67 <sup>></sup> 68 69 70

LV LV Ø

71 R 72 73 74

*mf*

LV LV LV LV

75 76 77 78

LV LV LV LV

79 80 81 82

LV LV LV LV

83 84 85 86

LV LV LV LV

Detailed description: This system contains measures 83 through 86. The right hand (treble clef) features chords and moving lines, while the left hand (bass clef) plays a simple bass line. Measure 83 has a chord in the right hand and a single note in the left. Measure 84 has a dotted quarter note in the right hand and a quarter note in the left. Measure 85 has a dotted quarter note in the right hand and a quarter note in the left. Measure 86 has a dotted quarter note in the right hand and a quarter note in the left. The label 'LV' is placed below the left hand staff for each measure.

87 88 89 90 91 92

LV LV LV LV

*pp* *pp*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 87 through 92. Measures 87-89 follow the same pattern as the previous system. Measure 90 features a complex texture with multiple overlapping lines in the right hand and a single note in the left. Measure 91 and 92 continue this complex texture. The dynamic marking *pp* (pianissimo) is indicated below the right hand staff for measures 91 and 92. The label 'LV' is placed below the left hand staff for each measure.

93 94 95 96

LV LV LV

*mf*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 93 through 96. Measures 93-94 follow the same pattern. Measure 95 has a dotted quarter note in the right hand and a quarter note in the left. Measure 96 has a dotted quarter note in the right hand and a quarter note in the left. The dynamic marking *mf* (mezzo-forte) is indicated below the right hand staff for measure 96. The label 'LV' is placed below the left hand staff for each measure.

97 R 98 99 100

LV LV

*p* *mf*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 97 through 100. Measure 97 is marked with an 'R' (ritardando) and has a dotted quarter note in the right hand and a quarter note in the left. Measure 98 has a dotted quarter note in the right hand and a quarter note in the left. Measure 99 has a dotted quarter note in the right hand and a quarter note in the left. Measure 100 has a dotted quarter note in the right hand and a quarter note in the left. The dynamic marking *p* (piano) is indicated below the right hand staff for measure 99, and *mf* (mezzo-forte) is indicated below the right hand staff for measure 100. The label 'LV' is placed below the left hand staff for each measure.



101 102 103 104

LV

*p*

*v*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 101 through 104. Measure 101 shows a bass line with a quarter note G2 and a treble line with a dotted quarter note G4. Measure 102 has a bass line with a quarter note G2 and a treble line with a dotted quarter note G4. Measure 103 has a bass line with a quarter note G2 and a treble line with a dotted quarter note G4. Measure 104 has a bass line with a quarter note G2 and a treble line with a dotted quarter note G4. The dynamic *p* is marked above measure 102, and *v* is marked above measure 104. A 'LV' label is positioned below measure 101.

105 106 107 108

*f*

LV LV LV LV

Detailed description: This system contains measures 105 through 108. Measure 105 has a bass line with a quarter note G2 and a treble line with a dotted quarter note G4. Measure 106 has a bass line with a quarter note G2 and a treble line with a dotted quarter note G4. Measure 107 has a bass line with a quarter note G2 and a treble line with a dotted quarter note G4. Measure 108 has a bass line with a quarter note G2 and a treble line with a dotted quarter note G4. The dynamic *f* is marked above measure 105. 'LV' labels are positioned below each measure.

109 110 111 112

LV LV

*R*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 109 through 112. Measure 109 has a bass line with a quarter note G2 and a treble line with a dotted quarter note G4. Measure 110 has a bass line with a quarter note G2 and a treble line with a dotted quarter note G4. Measure 111 has a bass line with a quarter note G2 and a treble line with a dotted quarter note G4. Measure 112 has a bass line with a quarter note G2 and a treble line with a dotted quarter note G4. The dynamic *R* is marked above measure 111. 'LV' labels are positioned below measures 109 and 111.

113 114 115

LV LV LV

*ritard.*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 113 through 115. Measure 113 has a bass line with a quarter note G2 and a treble line with a dotted quarter note G4. Measure 114 has a bass line with a quarter note G2 and a treble line with a dotted quarter note G4. Measure 115 has a bass line with a quarter note G2 and a treble line with a dotted quarter note G4. The dynamic *ritard.* is marked above measure 113. 'LV' labels are positioned below each measure.



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