

Cat # 20674-HB

3 - 6 octaves handbells
3 - 6 octaves handchimes
Vocal Solo

Level 3-

Cat and Mouse Carol



Arranged by
Derek K. Hakes



From the Top Music
Albuquerque, NM
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The Cat and Mouse Carol

Cat. 20674-HB

Level 3-

Handbells Used: 3, 4, 5, or 6 Octaves

The handbell score consists of two staves, treble and bass clef. The treble staff contains a melody with notes and rests, including some notes enclosed in parentheses. The bass staff contains a bass line with notes and rests. A note in the bass staff is marked with an asterisk (*). Below the bass staff, a note is marked with an asterisk and the text '*Eb4 not used in 3-octave version'.

Handchimes Used: 3, 4, or 6 Octaves

The handchime score consists of two staves, treble and bass clef. The treble staff contains a melody with notes and rests, including some notes enclosed in parentheses. The bass staff contains a bass line with notes and rests. A note in the bass staff is marked with an asterisk (*).

- 3-octave ensembles omit notes enclosed in ()
- 4-octave ensembles omit notes enclosed in []
- 3- and 4-octave ensembles omit notes enclosed in < >
- 5-octave ensembles omit notes enclosed in { }

TD Staccato notes throughout

Performance Notes and Suggestions

I am a huge fan of the Choir on Temple Square (formerly the Mormon Tabernacle Choir) as well as the Bells on Temple Square. I especially appreciate two of their broadcasts – Music and the Spoken Word and their yearly Christmas special. Their programming is planned such that all walks of life, and indeed, all ages, are reached and touched by their message. It was during one such Christmas special – Glad Christmas Tidings – that I heard David Archuleta (then a recent runner-up on American Idol) sing The Cat and Mouse Carol. To that point, I had never heard this song.

While relatively obscure and unknown here in the United States, this 1970s song is mostly familiar in both England and Australia. After David Archuleta's beautiful and stirring performance, however, this song's presence certainly began making itself known. The story behind this carol is also relatively unknown.

There are only two known settings, and both are for choir (Mac Wilberg and Tom Fettke, respectively). I believe that the setting of this piece, like many of my pieces, was placed on my heart by God, and I am both humbled and thrilled that He has chosen me to arrange this song.

An avid listener of Christmas music, – and a huge fan as well – I believe the best Christmas carols are those that are both simple and transcend all age groups. This carol certainly fits these criteria. In a music era all-too-fraught with either meaningless or inappropriate lyrics, it is nice to be able to listen to and read lyrics that still reflect innocence.

As for the handbell setting, the vocal part (which may be performed as a solo or distributed to multiple voices) is required. During the chorus, either the vocal soloist may sing alone, or the handbell ensemble, a vocal choir, or even the congregation/audience can join in on the chorus.

A two-octave version will be available soon, making this a truly versatile arrangement for worship, concert, or even festivals. However you and your ensemble perform this, it is my hope you find the Christ Child in the manger this Christmas season, and – indeed – your heart.

Merry Christmas,
Derek Hakes
(Indianapolis, IN)

The Cat and Mouse Carol

Cat. 20674-HB
Level 3-

Words and Music by Ted Hutchinson

Arranged by Derek K. Hakes
(ASCAP)

Freely rubato

Musical notation for measures 1-4. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time. Measure 1 has an asterisk (*). Measure 2 has a '2' above it. Measure 3 has a '3' above it. Measure 4 has a '4' above it. Dynamics include *mp* and hairpins. Bass clef has rests in measures 1, 2, and 4.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time. Measure 5 has a '5' above it. Measure 6 has a '6' above it. Measure 7 has a '7' above it. Measure 8 has an '8' above it. Dynamics include *mp* and hairpins. Bass clef has rests in measures 5, 6, and 7.

Musical notation for measures 9-11. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time. Measure 9 has a '9' above it. Measure 10 has a '10' above it. Measure 11 has a '11' above it. Dynamics include *mf*, *p*, and hairpins. Performance instructions include "In time; flowing and legato", *p*, *R*, and "poco decres. e rit.". Bass clef has notes in measures 9, 10, and 11.

♩ = ca. 76

In time; flowing and legato

p

R

mf LV

LV

LV *poco decres. e rit.*

* *Love Came Down At Christmas* (trad. Irish melody)

** Measures 10-12: three-octave ensembles should play the bottom-most note, while four-, five-, and six-octave ensembles should play the top-most note

THE CAT AND THE MOUSE CAROL
Words and Music by TED HUTCHINSON
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12 *mf* 13 14

Said the cat to the mouse, in their dark lit - tle house, in that

12 *mf* 13 14

LV R

15 16 17

sta - ble so long a - go, "I am won - der - ing why that bright

15 16 17

LV R

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18 19 20 *mp*

star in the sky is shin - ing u - pon us down be - low." And the

18 19 20

LV *mp* R

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21 22 23

night skies rang, as the an - gels sang, when Love came down to the

24 25 26

earth; and the night skies rang, as the an - gels sang, when the

mf

27 28 29 30

Ba - by King had his birth.

mf

LV *decresc.* R *mf* LV R LV R

*Measures 24-28: Five- and six-octave ensembles may double top note one octave higher
 **The Birthday of a King (William Harold Neidlinger; ca. 1890)

31 32 33 34

35 36 37 *mp*

Said the

38 39 40

mouse to the cat, as in won - der they sat, and they saw Ma - ry's face filled with

*Top-most notes are for four-, five-, and six-octave ensembles only

41 42 43

joy, "Per - haps that star we can see is to tell you and me, of the

44 45 46

com - ing of this pre - cious lit - tle boy." And the night skies rang, as the

47 48 49

an - gels sang, when Love came down to the earth; and the

*Top-most notes are for four-, five-, and six-octave ensembles only

50 51 52

night skies rang, as the an - gels sang, when the Ba - by King had his

53 *rit. e decresc.* *mp* 54 Slightly slower (♩ = ca. 70)

birth. Slee - py shep - herds they saw as they crept through the door and they

53 54 55

rit. e decresc. *mp*

56 57 58

brought lit - tle gifts to the child. As they gazed with love on the

56 57 58

59 60 61 **In tempo** *mf*

child from a - bove, Ma - ry turned to the shep - herds and smiled. And the

62 63 64

night skies rang, as the an - gels sang, when Love came down to the

65 66 67 *f*

earth; _____ and the night skies rang, as the an - gels sang, when the

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68 *mf* 69 70

Ba - by King had his birth.

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71 *p* 72 73 74

So they hap - pi - ly sat, lit - tle

Please return to our store to order this item.

75 76 77 78

mouse, lit-tle cat, as they heard Ma-ry sing-ing to her son. — As she cra - dles with care, lit - tle

* *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* (Polish carol)
 ** Eb5 appears in *both* treble and bass clef

79 80 81 *mp*

Je - sus so fair, this ba - by, the Lord's cho - sen one. And the

82 83 84

night skies rang, as the an - gels sang, when Love came down to the

poco a poco accel. e cresc.

In tempo

85 86 87 *f*

earth; _____ and the night skies rang, as the an - gels sang, _____

f LV

* Six-octave ensembles double top note one octave higher through m. 88

88 *mf* 89 *poco decresc. e rit.* 90

when the Ba - by King had his

mf LV *poco decresc. e rit.* LV

91 *mp* Slower (♩ = ca. 68) 92 93

birth.

mp LV LV LV

94 95 96 97 98

A - men.

LV *poco a poco rit. al fine* LV *pp*