

Cat. # 20642

5 - 6 octaves handbells  
Optional sleigh bells

Level 3+

# THUNDER SNOW



*Composed by*  
*Elizabeth Peters*

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*From the Top Publishing*  
*Albuquerque, NM*



## ***Thundersnow***

*Commissioned for the Southminster Ringers 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion*

*Elizabeth Peters, Composer-in-Residence*

The story of this commission begins at 12:10 am on Christmas Day, 2017 as the Southminster Ringers began their final performance outside following the third Christmas Eve service. Everything began as it had all evening with a slight chill to the air. As they began to ring *Jingle Bells*, a snow began to fall, and then it began to fall much harder, forcing the ringers to clear the snow off their music after every few measures. THEN – LIGHTNING and THUNDER!! Thundersnow!<sup>1</sup> While rare, some of the ringers were excited because they had recently studied this phenomenon in class (and they texted their science teacher during the storm).

Fortunately, Skip and Liz Peters were helping the ringers at that point and they had the sense to realize that lightning and bells were probably not a good mix. Thus, the ringing on that Christmas morning came to an abrupt end, but they wanted to have their excitement memorialized and they begged Liz to write a piece of music for them. The result is ***Thundersnow***, performed by three teams of ringers. The first team represents the **Ringers** on that memorable night (performed by our current Ringers 1); the second team represents the gentle **Snow** (performed by some of our current Ringers 2 and 3); the third team represents the **Thunder** (performed by our Alumni Ringers – Sonorilo).

The piece is dedicated to all of our ringers who over the last fifty years have braved brisk breezes, mud and rain, snow, sleet, frigid temperatures, and Thundersnow every Christmas Eve for our congregation and for all those that drive by on that evening.



Liz Peters, Composer-in-Residence

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<sup>1</sup> **Thundersnow**, also known as a winter thunderstorm or a thundersnowstorm, is an unusual kind of thunderstorm with snow falling as the primary precipitation instead of rain. It typically falls in regions of strong upward motion within the cold sector of an extratropical cyclone. Thermodynamically, it is not different from any other type of thunderstorm, but the top of the cumulonimbus cloud is usually quite low.

A tale of thunder, snow, and the valiant ringers who faced them head on

# THUNDER SNOW

Cat. 20642

Level 3+

Optional jingle bells

Handbells used: 5 - 6 octaves

Handbell notation for Thunder Snow. The score consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a sequence of notes with various accidentals (sharps, flats, naturals) and some notes with stems pointing up. The bass staff contains a sequence of notes with various accidentals and stems pointing down. The notes are arranged in a way that suggests a specific sequence of handbell strikes. The key signature is one flat (B-flat).

TD staccato notes unless otherwise indicated

Allegro (M.M. ♩ = c. 110 - 120)

Elizabeth Peters

Piano accompaniment for Thunder Snow. The score is in 4/4 time and consists of three systems of two staves (treble and bass clef). The first system starts with a treble clef staff containing a series of chords and a bass clef staff with rests. The second system continues the treble staff with eighth-note patterns and the bass clef with rests. The third system continues the treble staff with eighth-note patterns and the bass clef with rests. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The tempo is Allegro (M.M. ♩ = c. 110 - 120). The composer is Elizabeth Peters. The score includes markings for jingle bells: \*JB+ and \*JB-.

\* Start jingle bells = JB+ Stop jingle bells = JB-

13 14 15

\* DD

16 17 18 19

DD

*f*

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*mf*

JB+

20 21 22

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23 24 25

\* DD (Delay Damp): Ring normally and delay damping until after the following note is rung. This will produce a modified LV sound.

26 27 28

*JB-*

29 30 31

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32 33 34

*subito p*

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35 36 37

*f*

38 39 40

*p*

42 43 44

LV R LV

45 46 47

R DD LV *cresc.*

48 49 50

DD f *p* LV

51 R LV 52 LV 53 R LV

54 LV 55 LV R 56 RT Sk

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57 LV 58 R RT Sk 59 LV

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60 LV 61 62

subito **p** cresc. poco a poco



63 64 65

8<sup>va</sup>

*ff* R

66 67 68

(8<sup>va</sup>)

JB+

69 70 71

Sk

*mf* *cresc.*

72 73 74

Sk

*f*

75 76

Sk

*ff*

R

LV

78 79

JB- R

80 81 82

(LV)

R

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<b>Allelu</b> by Jacqueline McNair & Martha Lynn Thompson	3-5 (6) oct.+ opt. chimes, .SA choral & perc.	Level II
<b>Be Joyful</b> by Lee Afdahl	3 - 5 oct. bells + opt. 3-5 oct chimes	Level II
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<b>Jehova, Senor de los Cielos</b> arr. by Gail Downey	3 - 5 oct. bells, 3 oct. chimes, opt. vocal, guitar	Level II
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<b>Fanfare on Joyful, Joyful</b> by Bob Burroughs	3 - 5 octaves handbells	Level III
<b>Forgotten Dreams</b> arr. by Betty Garee	4 octaves + flute, C inst. or chimes	Level III
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<b>My Jesus</b> by Fred A. Merrett	3 octaves bells/opt. chimes	Level III
<b>Processional on an Opening Bell</b> by M. Mazzatenta	3 (4) (5) octaves bells	Level III
<b>Winter Wonderland</b> arr. by Gail Downey	3, 4 or 5 oct. bells/opt. chimes	Level III
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<b>Joyous Echo Fanfare</b> by Michael Mazzatenta	3 octaves	Level III+
<b>Ton Moulin</b> by Valerie Stephenson	(3) (4) 5 octaves bells, (3) 5 oct. chimes	Level III+
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<b>Cantabile: A Singing Spirit</b> by Lee Afdahl	3-5 (6) oct. bells/opt chimes	Level IV
<b>Crush Collision March</b> by Larry Sue	5 (6) oct. bells, 3 oct. chimes +opt F2	Level IV
<b>Fantasia on Spirit of God</b> arr. by Matthew Prins	5 oct.	Level IV
<b>O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus</b> by Derek Hakes	(3) (4) 5 octaves bells, 3 oct. chimes	Level IV
<b>Blessedness of Unity</b> Psalm 133 by Lee Afdahl	3 or 4-5 oct. bells/ Opt.chimes	Level IV+
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<b>Masters in This Hall</b> arr. Gail Downey	3 or 5 octaves	Level V
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