

# Merry are the Bells

Merry  
are  
the  
Bells.

for William and Mary

Solo Woodwind (any octave)

Voices

1. 4. Merry are the bells, and merry would they ring; Merry was my  
2. Waddle goes your gait, and hollow are your nose. Noddle goes your  
3. Merry have we met, and merry have we been, Merry let us

Sidrum 3

Chinese 4 Hand Cymbals

WW

Voices

1. 4. self, and merry could I sing; with a merry ding-dong, happy, gay and free, with a merry sing-song  
2. pate and purple is your nose; Merry is your sing-song, happy, gay and tree, with a merry ding-dong  
3. part and merry meet a gain; with a merry sing-song, happy, gay and tree, and a merry ding-dong

Sd

CHC

WW

Voices

happy let us be!

Sd

CHC

12. 6. 77.



Peter Dyson

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Version for Unison Voices  
Peter Dyson  
1977

# Merry are the Bells.

A framework for flexible performance

English Nursery Rhyme

for William and Mary

Peter Dyson

With vigour (♩ = 160)

Descant Instruments

Percussion Instruments

Cymbals & similar

Unison Voices & instruments

Keyboard &/or other instruments

Rhythm may be shared over several instruments & built up in layers over the verses

Instruments may be added with each verse

1. Mer-ry are the bells, and mer-ry would they
2. Wad-dle goes your gait, and hol-low are your
3. Mer-ry have we met, and mer-ry have we

6

Desc.

Perc 1

Perc 2

Tune.

ring: \_\_\_\_\_ Mer-ry was my - self and mer-ry could I sing: with a  
hose. \_\_\_\_\_ Nod-dle goes your pate and pur-ple is your nose; mer-ry  
been, \_\_\_\_\_ Mer-ry let us part and mer-ry meet a - gain; with a

Accomp.



11

Desc.

Perc 1

Perc 2

Tune.

mer-ry ding - dong, hap - py, gay and free, with a mer-ry sing - song, hap-py let us  
 is your sing - song, hap - py, gay and free, with a mer-ry ding - dong, hap-py let us  
 mer-ry sing - song, hap - py, gay and free, with a mer-ry ding - dong, hap-py let us

Accomp.



16

Great Bardfield 12th May 1977

Desc.

Perc 1

Perc 2

Tune.

be!  
 be!  
 be!

Accomp.