

Christmas Day

2011

Elaine Agnew

for choir, piano and optional percussion

**commissioned under the RTÉ Lyric fm
Composer in Residence scheme**

poem by Gabriel Fitzmaurice

Information on Optional Percussion Part:

A single triangle line is notated throughout

This part could easily be played by 1, 2, even up to 3 children, playing 1, 2 or even 3 different sized triangles (preferably suspended). Feel free to explore this.

The most important thing though, is to stick with the notated rhythm.

Other similar sounding instruments could also be used - sleigh bells, finger cymbals, Indian bells (i.e sounds that are quiet and can sustain/ring on)

You could use different sets of metal instruments for different sections of the piece

Christmas Day

The North Pole wind begins to blow
And with it comes the snow! the snow!
The grass is white, it's starchy-clean,
The whitest white I've ever seen;

Dad complains of ice and cold
(If you don't like the snow you're old);
The trees and thorns are ice-cream white,
Stars are diamonds in the night;

The turkey's plucked
The pudding's plummed,
Christmas cards
Are stamped and gummed;

I can't wait for Santa
Who comes to good and bold kids too
For Christmas is the time of year
That makes you good, oh! I could cheer

Dad complains of ice and cold
(If you don't like the snow you're old);
The trees and thorns are ice-cream white,
Stars are diamonds in the night;

For when it comes
To Christmas Day
We show our toys
And play and play.

Snow, the snow, the snow/I could cheer/Snow, the snow, the snow
Christmas Day/Play and play and play

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With excitement! ♩ = 88

Choir

Triangle *optional* *mf* (let ring)

Piano *mf* use a little pedal

Choir *mf*
The North Pole wind be- gins_ to blow And

Tri.

Pno.

Choir
with it comes the snow! the snow! The grass is white, it's star_ chy clean, The

Tri.

Pno.

Choir
whit-est white I've ev - er seen; Dad com-plains of ice_ and cold, If

Tri.

Pno. *p*

10

Choir *mf*
you don't like the snow you're old; The trees and thorns are ice - cream white,

Tri. *p* *mf*

Pno. *mf*

12

Choir **A**
Stars are dia-monds in the night; The Tur - key's plucked,

Tri.

Pno.

14

Choir
the pud - ding's plummed Christ - mas cards

Tri.

Pno.

16

Choir
are stamped and gummed

Tri.

Pno.

19 **B** Softer *p*

Choir *p*
I can't wait for San - ta who Comes to good and bold kids too For

Tri. *p*

Pno. *p*

21

Choir
Christ - mas is the time of year That makes you good, oh! I could cheer

Tri.

Pno.

23 *mf* *p* *mf*

Choir *mf*
Dad com-plains of ice and cold If you don't like the snow you're old; The

Tri. *mf* *p* *mf*

Pno. *mf* *p* *mf*

25

Choir
trees and thorns are ice - cream white, Stars are dia-monds in the night

Tri.

Pno.

27 *f*

Choir

Tri.

Pno.

For when it comes to Christ - mas Day

29

Choir

Tri.

Pno.

We show our toys and play_ and play

31 **C** *f* *Divisi*

Choir

Tri.

Pno.

I could cheer

Snow the snow the snow Snow the snow the snow Christ mas

34

Choir

Tri.

Pno.

Play and play and play Day

Day, Christ mas Day

f *pp*