



Rain on the Roof

J. H. Rheem
(1835-1918)

Rain on the Roof

J. H. Rheem

S
A
T
B

When the show - ery va - pors gath - er o - ver all the star - ry spheres, And the

S
A
T
B

mel - an - chol - y dark - ness gen - tly weeps in rain - y tears, 'Tis a joy to press the pil - low of a

S
A
T
B

cot - tage cham - ber bed, And lis - ten to the pat - ter of the soft rain o - ver - head, And

Rain on the Roof

9

S
lis - ten to the pat - ter of the soft rain o - ver - head, And

A
lis - ten to the pat - ter of the soft rain o - ver - head, And

T
8
lis - ten to the pat - ter of the soft rain o - ver - head, And

B
lis - ten to the pat - ter of the soft rain o - ver - head, And

12

S
lis - ten to the pat - ter, pat - ter pat - ter of the soft rain o - ver - head, And

A
lis - ten to the pat - ter, pat - ter pat - ter of the soft rain o - ver - head, And

T
8
lis - ten to the pat - ter, pat - ter pat - ter of the soft rain o - ver - head, And

B
lis - ten to the pat - ter, pat - ter pat - ter of the soft rain o - ver - head, And

14

S
lis - ten to the pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter of the soft rain o - ver - head.

A
lis - ten to the pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter of the soft rain o - ver - head.

T
8
lis - ten to the pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter of the soft rain o - ver - head.

B
lis - ten to the pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter of the soft rain o - ver - head.

Rain on the Roof

S Ev - 'ry tin - kle on the shin - gles has an ech - o in the heart, And a

A Ev - 'ry tin - kle on the shin - gles has an ech - o in the heart, And a

T Ev - 'ry tin - kle on the shin - gles has an ech - o in the heart, And a

B Ev - 'ry tin - kle on the shin - gles has an ech - o in the heart, And a

¹⁹S thou-sand drear - y fan - cies in - to bu - sy be - ing start; And a thou - sand rec - ol - lec - tions weave their

A thou-sand drear - y fan - cies in - to bu - sy be - ing start; And a thou - sand rec - ol - lec - tions weave their

T thou-sand drear - y fan - cies in - to bu - sy be - ing start; And a thou - sand rec - ol - lec - tions weave their

B thou-sand drear - y fan - cies in - to bu - sy be - ing start; And a thou - sand rec - ol - lec - tions weave their

²²S bright hues in - to woof, As I lis - ten to the pat - ter of the soft rain on the roof, As I

A bright hues in - to woof, As I lis - ten to the pat - ter of the soft rain on the roof, As I

T bright hues in - to woof, As I lis - ten to the pat - ter of the soft rain on the roof, As I

B bright hues in - to woof, As I lis - ten to the pat - ter of the soft rain on the roof, As I

Rain on the Roof

25

S
lis - ten to the pat - ter of the soft rain on the roof, As I

A
lis - ten to the pat - ter of the soft rain on the roof, As I

T
lis - ten to the pat - ter of the soft rain on the roof, As I

B
lis - ten to the pat - ter of the soft rain on the roof, As I

28

S
lis - ten to the pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter of the soft rain on the roof, As I

A
lis - ten to the pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter of the soft rain on the roof, As I

T
lis - ten to the pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter of the soft rain on the roof, As I

B
lis - ten to the pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter of the soft rain on the roof, As I

30

S
lis - ten to the pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter of the soft rain on the roof.

A
lis - ten to the pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter of the soft rain on the roof.

T
lis - ten to the pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter of the soft rain on the roof.

B
lis - ten to the pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter of the soft rain on the roof.

Rain on the Roof

S There in fan - cy comes my mo - ther, as she used to years a - gone, To sur -

A There in fan - cy comes my mo - ther, as she used to years a - gone, To sur -

T There in fan - cy comes my mo - ther, as she used to years a - gone, To sur -

B There in fan - cy comes my mo - ther, as she used to years a - gone, To sur -

35 S vey the in - fant sleep - ers ere she left them till the dawn. I can see her bend - ing o'er me, as I

A vey the in - fant sleep - ers ere she left them till the dawn. I can see her bend - ing o'er me, as I

T vey the in - fant sleep - ers ere she left them till the dawn. I can see her bend - ing o'er me, as I

B vey the in - fant sleep - ers ere she left them till the dawn. I can see her bend - ing o'er me, as I

38 S lis - ten to the strain Which is played up - on the shin - gles by the pat - ter of the rain, Which is

A lis - ten to the strain Which is played up - on the shin - gles by the pat - ter of the rain, Which is

T lis - ten to the strain Which is played up - on the shin - gles by the pat - ter of the rain, Which is

B lis - ten to the strain Which is played up - on the shin - gles by the pat - ter of the rain, Which is

Rain on the Roof

41

S played up-on the shin - gles by the pat - ter of the rain, Which is

A played up-on the shin - gles by the pat - ter of the rain, Which is

T played up-on the shin - gles by the pat - ter of the rain, Which is

B played up-on the shin - gles by the pat - ter of the rain, Which is

44

S play'd now in a pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter on the shin - gles by the rain, Which is

A play'd now in a pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter on the shin - gles by the rain, Which is

T play'd now in a pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter on the shin - gles by the rain, Which is

B play'd now in a pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter on the shin - gles by the rain, Which is

46

S play'd now in a pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter on the shin - gles by the rain.

A play'd now in a pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter on the shin - gles by the rain.

T play'd now in a pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter on the shin - gles by the rain.

B play'd now in a pat - ter, pat - ter, pat - ter on the shin - gles by the rain.

John Henry Rheem (1835-1918) was born in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. He was musical from his youth and started singing in the church choir at age eight. At age 21, he went to Boston to study with Lowell Mason and the other leading teachers in that city. He returned to Pennsylvania and taught school music in Carlisle and Reading. In 1871, he moved to Iowa and taught briefly in Chariton then settled in Ottumwa. There, he taught music for a decade then began a music business, selling musical instruments. He invented and patented the "Rheem Accompanist," a device designed to assist a beginner to play any instrument. He organized a company to manufacture the device, employing many in the area. He was a respected member of the community and active in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He wrote hymns, many songs for school use, and issued music collections for singing schools. He died in Ottumwa.

When the showery vapors gather over all the starry spheres,
And the melancholy darkness gently weeps in rainy tears,
'Tis a joy to press the pillow of a cottage chamber bed,
And listen to the patter of the soft rain overhead.

Every tinkle on the shingles has an echo in the heart,
And a thousand dreary fancies into busy being start;
And a thousand recollections weave their bright hues into woof,
As I listen to the patter of the soft rain on the roof.

There in fancy comes my mother, as she used to years ago,
To survey the infant sleepers ere she left them till the dawn.
I can see her bending o'er me, as I listen to the strain
Which is played upon the shingles by the patter of the rain

Then my little seraph sister, with her wings and waving hair,
And her bright-eyed cherub brother, -- a serene, angelic pair --
Glide around my wakeful pillow with their praise of mild reproof,
As I listen to the murmur of soft rain on the roof.

And another comes to thrill me with her eyes' delicious blue.
I forget, as gazing on her, that her heart was all untrue;
I remember that I loved her as I ne'er may love again,
And my heart's quick pulses vibrate to the patter of the rain.

There is naught in art's bravuras that can work with such a spell,
In the spirit's pure, deep fountains, whence the holy passions swell,
As that melody of nature, -- that subdued, subduing strain,
Which is played upon the shingles by the patter of the rain.

Coates Kinney (1826-1904)

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