



Who Knows What the Bells Say?

Henry Parker
(1842–1917)

Who Knows What the Bells Say?

F. A. Challinor

♩ = 108

S

A

T

B

Piano

♩ = 108

r.h.

l.h.

f

con spirito

dim.

Who Knows What the Bells Say?

3

f marcato

S Who knows what the bells say? Ding, dong, ding, dong, *mf* Some-times sad and some-times gay,

A Who knows what the bells say? Ding, dong, ding, dong, *mf* Some-times sad and some-times gay,

T Who knows what the bells say? Ding, dong, ding, dong, *mf* Some-times sad and some-times gay,

B Who knows what the bells say? Ding, dong, ding, dong, *mf* Some-times sad and some-times gay,

Pno. *p* *mf*

6

f *p* *cresc.* *f* *rall.*

S Ding, dong, ding, dong, Day by day in mer - ry ri - ot, Break-ing in up - on the qui - et,

A Ding, dong, ding, dong, Day by day in mer - ry ri - ot, Break-ing in up - on the qui - et,

T Ding, dong, ding, dong, Day by day in mer - ry ri - ot, Break-ing in up - on the qui - et,

B Ding, dong, ding, dong, Day by day in mer - ry ri - ot, Break-ing in up - on the qui - et,

Pno. *f* *p* *cresc.* *f* *rall.*

Who Knows What the Bells Say?

9 *mf a tempo* *pp meno mosso*

S Glad with more than hu - man glad - ness, Sad with more than

A *mf a tempo* *pp meno mosso*

A Glad with more than hu - man glad - ness, Sad with more than

T *mf a tempo* *pp meno mosso*

T Glad with more than hu - man glad - ness, Sad with more than

B *mf a tempo* *pp meno mosso*

B Glad with more than hu - man glad - ness, Sad with more than

Pno. *a tempo* *mf* *pp meno mosso*

12 *f animato* *p*

S mor - tal sad - ness, Glad with more than hu - man glad - ness, Sad with more than

A *f animato* *p*

A mor - tal sad - ness, Glad with more than hu - man glad - ness, Sad with more than

T *f animato* *p*

T mor - tal sad - ness, Glad with more than hu - man glad - ness, Sad with more than

B *f animato* *p*

B mor - tal sad - ness, Glad with more than hu - man glad - ness, Sad with more than

Pno. *animato* *f* *p*

Who Knows What the Bells Say?

16 *dim. e rit.*

S mor - tal sad - ness; *pp* > Ding, > dong, > ding, > ding,

A *dim. e rit.* *pp* > Ding, > dong, > ding, > ding,

T *dim. e rit.* *pp* > Ding, > dong, > ding, > ding, > dong,

B *dim. e rit.* *pp* > Ding, > dong, > ding, > ding,

Pno. *dim. e rit.* *pp* *l.h.* >

19 *a tempo*

S > dong.

A *a tempo* > dong.

T *a tempo* > dong.

B *a tempo* > dong.

Pno. *pp* *a tempo* *leggiere* *dolce* *s*

Who Knows What the Bells Say?

22 *p cantabile*

S Swing - ing to and fro, Mu - sic soft and low;

A Swing - ing to and fro, Mu - sic soft and low;

T Swing - ing to and fro, Mu - sic soft and low;

B Swing - ing to and fro, Mu - sic soft and low;

Pno. *p cantabile*

26

S What the bells con - fess, How can mor - tals guess?

A What the bells con - fess, How can mor - tals guess?

T What the bells con - fess, How can mor - tals guess?

B What the bells con - fess, How can mor - tals guess?

Pno. *p cantabile*

Who Knows What the Bells Say?

30

S Lan - guage all their own, But to spir - its known,

A Lan - guage all their own, But to spir - its known,

T Lan - guage all their own, But to spir - its known,

B Lan - guage all their own, But to spir - its known,

Pno.

34

S *mf* Mor - tals nev - er reach *f rit.* Truths the bells would teach;

A *mf* Mor - tals nev - er reach *f rit.* Truths the bells would teach;

T *mf* Mor - tals nev - er reach *f rit.* Truths the bells would teach;

B *mf* Mor - tals nev - er reach *f rit.* Truths the bells would teach;

Pno. *mf* *cresc.* *f rit.*

Who Knows What the Bells Say?

38

S
Ding, ding, dong. *rall.*

A
Ding, ding, dong. *rall.*

T
Ding, ding, dong. *rall.*

B
Ding, ding, dong. *rall.*

Pno.
rall.

41

Tempo 1

S
f marcato Who knows what the bells say? *p* Ding, dong, ding, dong, *mf* Are they air - y sprites un - seen?

A
f marcato Who knows what the bells say? *p* Ding, dong, ding, dong, *mf* Are they air - y sprites un - seen?

T
f marcato Who knows what the bells say? *p* Ding, dong, ding, dong, *mf* Are they air - y sprites un - seen?

B
f marcato Who knows what the bells say? *p* Ding, dong, ding, dong, *mf* Are they air - y sprites un - seen?

Pno.
p *mf*

Who Knows What the Bells Say?

44

S *f* *p* *cresc.* *f* *rall.*
 Ding, dong, ding, dong; Who can tell the tale they're tell - ing, With their sol - emn meas - ur'd knell - ing?

A *f* *p* *cresc.* *f* *rall.*
 Ding, dong, ding, dong; Who can tell the tale they're tell - ing, With their sol - emn meas - ur'd knell - ing?

T *f* *p* *cresc.* *f* *rall.*
 Ding, dong, ding, dong; Who can tell the tale they're tell - ing, With their sol - emn meas - ur'd knell - ing?

B *f* *p* *cresc.* *f* *rall.*
 Ding, dong, ding, dong; Who can tell the tale they're tell - ing, With their sol - emn meas - ur'd knell - ing?

Pno. *f* *p* *cresc.* *f* *rall.*

47

S *mf* *a tempo* *pp* *meno mosso*
 Who can guess the mes - sage steal - ing With the bells' un -

A *mf* *a tempo* *pp* *meno mosso*
 Who can guess the mes - sage steal - ing With the bells' un -

T *mf* *a tempo* *pp* *meno mosso*
 Who can guess the mes - sage steal - ing With the bells' un -

B *mf* *a tempo* *pp* *meno mosso*
 Who can guess the mes - sage steal - ing With the bells' un -

Pno. *mf* *meno mosso* *pp*

Who Knows What the Bells Say?

50

S wear - ied peal - ing? Who can guess the mes - sage steal - ing With the bells' un -

A wear - ied peal - ing? Who can guess the mes - sage steal - ing With the bells' un -

T wear - ied peal - ing? Who can guess the mes - sage steal - ing With the bells' un -

B wear - ied peal - ing? Who can guess the mes - sage steal - ing With the bells' un -

Pno.

f *animato* *p*

54

S wear - ied peal - ing? Ding, dong, ding, ding,

A wear - ied peal - ing? Ding, dong, ding, ding,

T wear - ied peal - ing? Ding, dong, ding, ding, dong,

B wear - ied peal - ing? Ding, dong, ding, ding,

Pno.

dim. e rit. *pp* *l.h.*

57 *a tempo*

S
dong.

A
a tempo
dong.

T
a tempo
dong.

B
a tempo
dong.

57 *pp* *dolce*

Pno.
a tempo *pp*

leggiero

Cramer & Co. (ca. 1880)
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Henry Parker (1842–1917) was born in London, England, and trained at the Leipzig Conservatory and in Paris. He returned to London and became an established composer, conductor, and teacher of singing. For many years, he was professor at the Guildhall School of Music. He died in London. He published the book *The Voice: its Production and Improvement, with Practical Exercises*, and his compositions include operas, orchestral music, piano music, and assorted vocal pieces.

Who knows what the bells say?
Ding, dong, ding, dong,
Sometimes sad and sometimes gay,
Ding, dong, ding, dong,
Day by day in merry riot,
Breaking in upon the quiet,
Glad with more than human gladness,
Sad with more than mortal sadness;
Ding, dong, ding, ding, dong.

Swinging to and fro,
Music soft and low;
What the bells confess,
How can mortals guess?
Language all their own,
But to spirits known,
Mortals never reach
Truths the bells would teach;
Ding, ding, dong.

Who knows what the bells say?
Ding, dong, ding, dong,
Are they airy sprites unseen?
Ding, dong, ding, dong;
Who can tell the tale they're telling,
With their solemn measured knelling?
Who can guess the message stealing
With the bells' unwearied pealing?
Ding, dong, ding, ding, dong.

Nella

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