

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming has been sung in Germany since the 16th century. In 1609, composer Michael Praetorius (1571–1621) harmonized the melody heard today. English words were added in 1894 by Theodore Baker. This carol is often sung as a haunting unaccompanied choral arrangement.

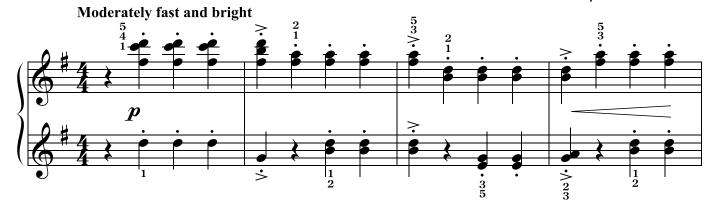


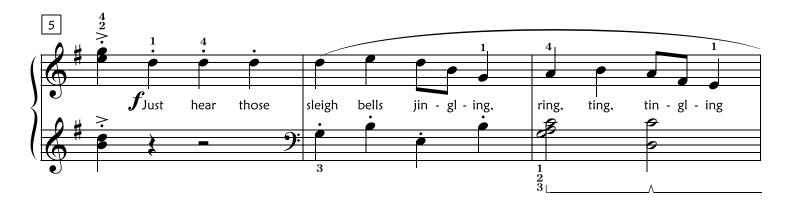


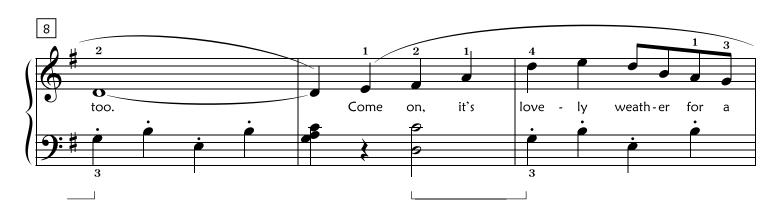
Leroy Anderson (1908–1975) was one of the finest composers of light music in the 20th century. His best-known works are The Syncopated Clock, Blue Tango, and, of course, **Sleigh Ride.** It was said that Anderson got the idea for the piece during a heat wave in 1946. As proof of its popularity, Sleigh Ride has been performed and recorded by more musical artists than any other song in Western music.

Sleigh Ride

Music by Leroy Anderson Words by Mitchell Parish









Originally called **Deck the Hall** (with no s), this Welsh melody is from the 16th century. The original Welsh words were about New Year's night; the familiar words printed here date from the 1880s. In many versions the "fa la la" is played by a harp. Even today, the holly's red berries and green leaves mentioned in the carol are traditional colors of the holiday.



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Waltz of the Flowers

(from The Nutcracker)

The premiere performance of Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker ballet in St. Petersburg in 1892 was not a success. But the music was so beautiful that Tchaikovsky selected eight of the more popular pieces and put them together to create The Nutcracker Suite. Waltz of the Flowers is one of the favorites from the suite. The flower dancers have a beautiful, graceful scene in Act Two of the ballet.

