

I Saw Three Ships

Dean Rishel
and Trtad.

The musical score is written for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and Piano. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 3/4. The score is divided into two systems. The first system covers the first four measures, and the second system covers measures 4 through 8. The lyrics are: "I saw three ships come sail - ing, in, I saw three ships come sail - ing, sail - ing in on Christ - mas day, I saw three ships come sail - ing in, come sail - ing in on Christ - mas day, three ships come sail - ing". The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and a treble line with chords and melodic fragments. Dynamics include *pp* (pianissimo) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). There are also performance markings such as a fermata over the first measure of the second system and a triplet of eighth notes in the final measure.

Soprano

Alto *pp*
I saw three ships come sail - ing, in, I saw three ships come sail - ing, sail - ing in on

Tenor *pp*
I saw three ships come sail - ing, in, I saw three ships come sail - ing, sail - ing in on

Bass *pp*
I saw three ships come sail - ing, in, I saw three ships come sail - ing, sail - ing in on

Piano *pp*

4 *mp* 3
S I saw three ships come sail - ing in, on Christ - mas day, on Christ - mas

A
Christ - mas day, I saw three ships come sail - ing in, come sail - ing in on Christ - mas day, three ships come sail - ing

T
Christ - mas day, I saw three ships come sail - ing in, come sail - ing in on Christ - mas day, three ships come sail - ing

B
Christ - mas day, I saw three ships come sail - ing in, come sail - ing in on Christmas day, three ships come sail - ing

Pno. *mp*

I Saw Three Ships

8

S day. I saw three ships come sail-ing, in on Christ-mas day in the morn - ing.

A in on Christ-mas day, I saw three ships come sail-ing, sail-ing in on Christ-mas day in the morn - ing.

T in on Christ-mas day, I saw three ships come sail-ing, sail-ing in on Christ-mas day in the morn - ing.

B in on Christ-mas day, I ships come sail-ing, sail-ing in on Christ-mas day in the morn - ing.

Pno.

12

S Tell me where, oh, where those ships did sail — Tell me where they sailed on

A Tell me where, oh, where those ships did sail. — Tell me where they sailed on

T Now tell me where those ships — did sail, on Christ-mas day, on Christ-mas

B Now tell me — those ships — did sail, on Christ-mas day, on Christ-mas

Pno.

16

S
Christ - mas day. Tell me where, oh where those ships did sail on

A
Christ - mas day. Tell me where, oh where those ships did sail on

T
8
day, Now tell me where those ships did sail, on

B
day, Now tell me where those ships did sail, on

Pno.

19

S
Christ-mas day in the morn - ing. Oh, They sailed in to Beth - le hem, sailed in on Christ-mas

A
Christmas day in the morn - ing? Oh, they sailed in - to Beth - le - hem,

T
8
Christ-mas day in the morn - ing? Oh, they sailed in - to Beth - le - hem,

B
Christ-mas day in the morn - ing? Oh They sailed in-to Beth - le - hem, sailed in on Christ-mas

Pno.

I Saw Three Ships

23

S day, on Christ - mas day, Oh they sailed in - to Beth - le - hem, on *f* *mp*

A on Christ - mas day, on Christ - mas day, Oh they sailed in - to Beht - le - nem, on *f* *mp*

T on Christ - mas day, on Christ - mas day, Oh, they sailed in - to Beth - le - hem, on *f* *mp*

B day, on Christ - mas day, Oh, they sailed on - to Beth - le - hem, on *f* *mp*

Pno.

27

S Christ - mas day in the morn - ing. And all the bells on earth - did ring on Christ - mas day, on *f*

A Christ - mas day in the morn - ing. And all the bells on earth did ring on Christ - mas day, on *f*

T Christmas day in the morn - ing. And all the bells on earth did ring on Christ - mas day, on *f*

B Christ - mas day in the morn - ing. And all the bells on earth did ring on Christ - mas day, on *f*

Pno.