

**THE DONG**  
(with the luminous nose)

*John Kilpatrick*  
*words by Edward Lear*

for unaccompanied singers  
(or with piano)

**SATB (div.)**

print: February 2022

for Gemma

# The Dong

words: Edward Lear  
music: John Kilpatrick

created January 2003  
reset in Overture September 2008  
reset in Musescore February 2022

This and other nonsense rhymes and stories by Edward Lear can be found in the Faber edition of the Complete Nonsense of Edward Lear, edited by Holbrook Jackson. Many can also be found on the Internet.

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# The Dong

Edward Lear

John Kilpatrick

*mf*  $\text{♩} = 72$

S  
When aw-ful dark - ness and si - lence reign ov - er the great Grom -

A  
When aw-ful dark - ness and si - lence reign ov - er the great Grom -

T  
When aw-ful dark - ness and si - lence reign ov - er the great Grom -

B  
When aw-ful dark - ness and si - lence reign ov - er the great, the great Grom -

Piano  
for rehearsal

5

bool - ian plain, through the long, long win - try nights; when the an - gry

bool - ian plain, through the long, long, long win - try nights; when the an - gry

bool - ian plain, through the long, long, long win - try nights; when the an - gry

bool - ian plain, through the long, long win - try nights; when the an - gry

9

brea - kers roar as they beat on the rock - y shore; when storm clouds brood on the

brea - kers roar as they beat on the rock - y shore; when storm clouds brood on the

brea - kers roar as they beat on the rock - y shore; when storm clouds brood on the

brea - kers roar as they beat on the rock - y shore; when storm clouds brood on the

12

to - we - ring heights — of the hills of the Chank - ly Bore: then, then, through the vast and

tow - 'ring heights — of the hills of the Chank - ly Bore: then, then, through the vast and

tow - 'ring heights — of the hills of the Chank - ly Bore: then, then, through the vast and

tow - 'ring heights — of the hills of the Chank - ly Bore: then, then, through the vast and

tow - 'ring heights — of the hills of the Chank - ly Bore: then, then, through the vast and

tow - 'ring heights — of the hills of the Chank - ly Bore: then, then, through the vast and

Dynamic markings: *ff*, *f*, *p*

17

gloo - my dark, — there moves what seems a fie - ry spark, a lone - ly spark with sil - ver - y rays, a

gloo - my dark, there moves a fie - ry spark, mm pier - cing the coal black night, *mf*

gloo - my dark, there moves a fie - ry spark, mm a

gloo - my dark, there moves a fie - ry spark, mm pier - cing the coal black night,

gloo - my dark, there moves a fie - ry spark, mm pier - cing the coal black night,

Dynamic markings: *mf*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*

22

me - te - or strange and bright: hi - ther and thi - ther the vis - ion strays, a sin - gle lu - rid light.

hi - ther and thi - ther the vis - ion strays, a sin - gle lu - rid light.

me - te - or strange and bright: hi - ther and thi - ther the vis - ion strays, a sin - gle lu - rid light.

hi - ther and thi - ther the vis - ion strays, a sin - gle lu - rid light.

Dynamic markings: *f*

27  $\text{♩} = 80$  *mf* *solo*

S, A *p* Slow - ly it wan - ders, pau - ses, creeps,

*p* Slow - ly, slow - ly, slow - ly, slow - ly, slow - ly, slow - ly,

*p* Slow - ly, slow - ly, slow - ly, slow - ly, slow - ly, slow - ly,

Slow - ly, slow - ly, slow - ly, slow - ly, slow - ly, slow - ly,

30

a - non it spar-kles, flash-es and leaps; and ev - er as on-ward it gleam-ing goes.

*mf* ah flash - es, flash-es and leaps; *p* ah

*mf* ah flash - es, flash-es and leaps. *p* ah

*mf* ah flash - es, flash-es and leaps. *p* ah

33  $\text{♩} = 72$  *mf tutti*

— a light on the Bong tree stem it throws. S And those who watch at that

*p* ah ah Bong tree stem it throws. *mf* And those who watch at that

ah ah mm And those who watch at that

ah ah mm And those who watch at that

37

mid - night hour from hall or ter-race, or lof - ty tower, cry, as the wild light pas-ses a-long, The

42

The Dong! The wan-der - ing Dong through the for-est goes!

46

The Dong! The Dong with the lu - min - ous nose!

50  $\text{♩} = 80$

*p*  
a-go gay ooh

*p*  
a-go gay ooh *p*

*mf solo*  
Long years a - go the Dong was hap - py and gay, till he fell in love with a

*p*

56

*mf*  
ooh for the Jum-blies came in a sieve, they did,

*mf*  
ooh ooh for the Jumb-lies came in a

*mf*  
ooh ooh for the Jumb-lies came in a

*tutti mf*  
Jum - bly girl who came to those shores one day, for the Jum-blies came in a

62  $\text{♩} = 66$

land-ing at eve near the Zem-me-ry Fidd mm.

sieve, land-ing at eve near the Zem-me-ry Fidd mm.

sieve, where the ob-long oy-sters grow, (mm)

sieve, and the rocks are smooth and gray.

♩ = 80  
 66 *f*

And all the woods. and the val - leys rang with the cho - rus they dai - ly and night - ly sang.

And all the woods and the val - leys rang with the cho - rus they dai - ly and night - ly sang.

And all the woods and the val - leys rang with the cho - rus they dai - ly and night - ly sang.

And all the woods. and the val - leys rang with the cho - rus they dai - ly and night - ly sang.

♩ = 170  
 72 *mp*

Far and few, far and few, are the lands where the Jum - blies live;

Far and few, far and few, are the lands where the Jum - blies live;

Far and few, far and few, are the lands where the Jum - blies live;

Far and few, far and few, are the lands where the Jum - blies live;

76

their heads are green, and their hands are blue, and they went to sea in a sieve.

their heads are green, and their hands are blue, and they went to sea in a sieve.

their heads are green, and their hands are blue, and they went to sea in a sieve.

their heads are green, and their hands are blue, and they went to sea in a sieve.



♩ = 90  
 80 *mf*  
 Hap - pi - ly, hap - pi - ly passed those days! while the cheer - ful Jum - blies staid;  
*mp*  
 Ah ah ah  
*mp*  
 Ah ah ah  
*mp*  
 Ah ah ah

83 *mf*  
 they danced in cir - clets all day long, to the plain - tive  
*mf*  
 they danced in cir - clets all day long to the plain - tive  
 um um um  
 um um um

86 *p* *mf*  
 pipe of the live - ly Dong, in moon - light, shine, or shade. For  
*p* *mf*  
 pipe of the live - ly Dong, in moon - light, shine, or shade. For  
 um um in moon - light, shine, or shade. *mf* For  
 um um in moon - light, shine, or shade. For day and

90

day and night he was al - ways there by the side of the Jumb - ly girl so

*mf*

For day and night he was al - ways there mm mm

day and night he was al - ways, al - ways there mm mm

night he was al - ways there mm mm

♩ = 80 (free time ad lib.)

94

fair, with her sky - blue hands, and her sea - green hair.

*f*

mm, with her sky - blue hands, and her sea - green hair.

*f*

mm, with her sky - blue hands, and her sea - green hair.

*f*

mm, with her sky - blue hands, and her sea - green hair.

97

♩ = 90

Till the mor - ning came of that hate - ful day when the Jum - blyes sailed in their

*mf*

*mf* Till the mor - ning came of that hate - ful day when the Jum - blyes

*mf* Till the mor - ning came of that hate - ful day when the Jum - blyes sailed

*mf* Till the mor - ning came of that hate - ful day when the Jum - blyes sailed in their

100

sieve a - way, and the Dong was left on the cru - el shore  
 sailed a - way, and the Dong was left on the cru - el shore  
 in their sieve a - way, and the Dong was left on the cru - el shore  
 sieve a - way, and the Dong was left on the cru - el shore.

103

*f* gaz - ing, gaz - ing for ev - er - more,  
*f* gaz - ing, gaz - ing for ev - er - more,  
*f* gaz - ing, gaz - ing, gaz - ing for ev - er - more,  
*f* gaz - ing, gaz - ing, gaz - ing for ev - er - more,

106

*mp* ev - er kee - ping his wea - ry eyes on that pea - green sail on the far ho - ri - zon,  
*mp* ah ah ah ah,  
*mp* ah ah ah ah,  
*mp* ah ah ah ah,  
*mp* ah ah ah ah,

109 *mf*

sing - ing the Jum - bly cho - rus still as he sate all day on the grass - y hill.

*mf*

sing - ing the Jum - bly cho - rus still as he sate all day on the grass - y hill.

*mf*

sing - ing the Jum - bly cho - rus still as he sate all day on the grass - y hill.

*mf*

sing - ing the Jum - bly cho - rus still as he sate all day on the grass - y hill,

115  $\text{♩} = 160$

*p*

Ah ah ah ah

*p*

Ah ah ah ah

*solo mf Haltingly (more or less as written)*

T.B *p* Far and few, far and few, are the lands where the Jum-blies live;

ah ah ah ah

119

ah ah and they went to sea in a sieve.

ah ah and they went to sea in a sieve.

their heads are green, and their hands are blue, and they went to sea in a sieve.

ah ah and they went to sea in a sieve.

123  $\text{♩} = 72$  *p*

But when the sun was low in the west, the Dong a - rose and said;

*tutti p* But when the sun was low in the west, the Dong a - rose and said; *solo (in free time)*

But when the sun was low in the west, the Dong a - rose and said; What lit - tle

But when the sun was low, low in the west, the Dong a - rose and said;

128 *p*

And since that day he

And since that day he

*tutti p* sense I once pos - sessed has quite gone out of my head! And since that day he

And since that day he

131

wan - ders still by lake and for - est, marsh and hill, sing - ing

wan - ders still by lake and for - est, marsh and hill, sing - ing *solo mf freely*

wan - ders still by lake and for - est, marsh and hill, sing - ing O some - where,

wan - ders still by lake and for - est, marsh and hill, sing - ing.

134

ah ah ah ah ah

ah ah ah ah ah

*in time* *freely*

O some-where in val - - ley\_ or plain might I meet my Jum - bly girl a - gain! For ev - er,

*pp*

ah ah ah ah ah ah ah

*pp*

138

ah ah ah ah ah ah ah

ah ah ah ah ah ah ah

*in time*

for ev - er may I seek by lake\_ and shore till I find my Jum - bly girl once more!

ah ah ah ah ah ah ah

141

*mf*  $\text{♩} = 90$  *mf*

Till I find my Jum - - bly girl once more! Mm mm

Till I find my Jum - - bly girl once more!

*mf tutti* Ah ah ah ah ah

Till I find my Jum - - bly girl once more! Ah ah ah ah ah

*mf*

145 *p* (representing pipe . . . . . with squeaks)

*mf* la la la la la la la la

Play-ing a pipe with sil-ver-y squeaks, since then his Jumb-ly girl he seeks,

*p* ah ah ah, ah ah ah ah ah ah ah ah ah, ah ah ah,

ah ah ah, ah ah ah ah ah ah ah ah ah,

149

*mm* *mm* la la la la la *mm*

and be-cause by night he could not see, he gath-ered the bark of the

ah ah ah ah ah ah ah ah ah, *mm* *mm*

ah ah ah ah ah ah ah ah ah *mm* *mm*

153

*mp* *mf*

*mm* on the flow-ery plain that grows. And he wove

Twang-um Tree on the flow-ery plain that grows. And he wove

*mp* *mf* *mf*

*mm* on the flow-ery plain that grows. And he wove him, he wove

*mp* *mf*

*mm* on the flow-ery plain that grows. And he wove

157

*f* him a won - drous nose, *mf* a nose as strange as a nose could be!

*f* him a won - drous nose, *mf* a nose as strange as a nose could be!

*f* him a won - drous nose, *mf* a nose as strange as a nose could be!

*f* him a won - drous nose, *mf* a nose as strange as a nose could be!

$\text{♩} = 100$

162

*f* Of vast pro - por - tions and pain - ted red, and tied with cords to the

*f* Of vast pro - por - tions and pain - ted red, and tied with cords to the

*f* Of vast pro - por - tions and pain - ted red, and tied with cords to the

*f* Of vast pro - por - tions and pain - ted red, and tied with cords to the

*f* Of vast pro - por - tions and pain - ted red, and tied with cords to the

F A D F# B Eb Ab C

165

back of his head. In a hol - low roun - - ded space it end - ed with a lu - min - ous

back of his head. In a hol - low roun - - ded space it end - ed with a lu - min - ous

back of his head. In a hol - low roun - - ded space it end - ed with a lu - min - ous

back of his head. In a hol - low roun - - ded space it end - ed with a lu - min - ous

F



169 *rit.* *a tempo* *f*

lamp with - in sus - pend - ed, to pre-vent the  
 lamp with - in sus - pend - ed, to pre-vent the  
 lamp with - in sus - pend - ed, to pre-vent the  
 lamp with - in sus - pend - ed, all - fenced a - bout, with a ban - dage stout to pre-vent the

*rit.* *a tempo* *f* *f*

172 *p* *f* *mp*  $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

wind from blow-ing it out; and with holes all round to  
 wind from blow-ing it out; and with holes all round to  
 wind from blow-ing it out; and with holes all round to  
 wind from blow-ing it out; and with holes all round to

*p* *f* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

176  $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$  *ff* *p rit.*

send the light, in gleam - ing rays on the dis - mal night.  
 send the light, in gleam - ing rays on the dis - mal night.  
 send the light, in gleam - ing rays on the dis - mal night.  
 send the light, in gleam - ing rays on the dis - mal night.

*ff* *p* *ff* *p* *ff* *p* *rit.* *p*

182  $\text{♩} = 72$  *mf*

And now each night, and all night long, ov - er those plains still

And now each night, and all night long, ov - er those plains still

And now each night, and all night long, ov - er those plains still

And now each night, and all night long, ov - er those plains still

186

roams the Dong;

roams the Dong; and a-bove the wail of the Chimp and Snipe you may hear the

roams the Dong; and a - bove the wail of the Chimp. and Snipe you may

roams the Dong; and a-bove the wail of the Chimp and Snipe. you may hear

189 *(pipe)* *f*

la la la la la while ev - er, *p* *f*

squeak of his plain - tive pipe while ev - er, while ev - er, while

hear the squeak of his plain - tive pipe while ev - er, *f*

the squeak of his plain - tive pipe while ev - er, while ev - er, while ev - er he

*F#7* *Bm*

193

*f* while ev - er he seeks, but seeks in vain, *mp* to meet\_ with his Jum - - bly girl a - gain;

ev - er he seeks, but seeks in vain to meet\_ with his Jum - - bly girl a - gain;

*f* while ev - er he seeks, but seeks in vain *mp* to meet\_ with his Jum - - bly girl a - gain;

seeks, ev - er seeks, but seeks in vain to meet\_ with his Jum - - bly girl a - gain;

197

*f* and wild\_ the Dong with the lu - min-ous nose!

*f* and wild\_ all night he goes, *p* the Dong with the lu - min-ous nose!

*solo* lone-ly\_ *tutti f* and wild\_ *pp* the Dong with the lu - min-ous nose!

and wild\_ all night he goes, *pp* the Dong with the lu - min-ous nose!

202

*mf* And all who watch at the mid - night hour, *sf* from hall or ter-race or lof - ty tower, cry,

*mf* And all who watch at the mid - night hour, from hall *sf* or ter-race or lof - ty tower, cry,

*mf* And all who watch at the mid - night hour, from hall *sf* or ter-race or lof - ty tower, cry,

*mf* And all who watch at the mid - night hour, from hall *sf* or ter-race or lof - ty tower, cry,

207

*f* as they trace the me - te - or bright, *p* mov - ing a - long through the drea - ry night,

*f* as they trace the me - te - or bright, *p* mov - ing a - long through the drea - ry night,

*f* as they trace the me - te - or bright, *p* mov - ing a - long through the drea - ry night,

*f* as they trace the me - te - or bright, *p* mov - ing a - long through the drea - ry night,

211

*ff* This is the hour when forth he goes, *mp* Yon - der, *pp* o - ver the

*ff* This is the hour when forth he goes, *mp* Yon - der, *pp* o - ver the

*ff* This is the hour when forth he goes, *pp* the Dong with the lu - min - ous nose! *p* Yon - der, *pp* o - ver the

*ff* This is the hour when forth he goes, *pp* the Dong with the lu - min - ous nose! *p* Yon - der, *pp* o - ver the

215

*mf* plain he goes, *f* he goes, *ff* he goes; the Dong with the lu - min - ous nose!

*mp* plain he goes, *f* he goes, *ff* he goes; the Dong with the lu - min - ous nose!

*mp* plain he goes, *f* he goes, *ff* he goes; the Dong with the lu - min - ous nose!

*mf* plain he goes, *f* he goes, *ff* he goes; the Dong with the lu - min - ous nose!