

Choral Anthem

# The Trouble With Christmas

Words and Music by  
DON & LORIE MARSH  
Arranged and Orchestrated by  
Don Marsh

Slowly (♩ = 84)

Em D G7(b9) Ab9 G9(#5)

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand starts with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a quarter rest, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes. The left hand starts with a bass clef and a 4/4 time signature, playing a simple harmonic accompaniment. The piece concludes with a 2/4 time signature change and a final 4/4 measure.

4 Solo-Ebby rit. a tempo

Ev-'ry-time I look a-round this sea-son of the year, I see all kinds of Christ-mas joy and

Cm Ab9 Cm Db9(#11) Cm Ab9

This section features a vocal line starting at measure 4. The vocal line is marked 'Solo-Ebby' and includes 'rit.' and 'a tempo' markings. The lyrics are: 'Ev-'ry-time I look a-round this sea-son of the year, I see all kinds of Christ-mas joy and'. The piano accompaniment is shown in two staves below the vocal line, with chords Cm, Ab9, Cm, Db9(#11), Cm, and Ab9.

7 rit. a tempo

plent-y of good cheer. And I don't mean to grum-ble, and I don't like to gripe. But it

Em D Ab13 G7+ G7 Fm Bb D Eb Ab C Db G B Cm

This section continues the vocal line starting at measure 7. The lyrics are: 'plent-y of good cheer. And I don't mean to grum-ble, and I don't like to gripe. But it'. The piano accompaniment is shown in two staves below the vocal line, with chords Em, D, Ab13, G7+, G7, Fm, Bb, D, Eb, Ab, C, Db, G, B, and Cm.

The Trouble With Christmas - 2

10

*rit.*

seems to me — that Christ-mas, has be - come a lot of hype. And let me tell you, It's

D7sus A Ab13 Gsus A Ab13 Fm6(9) G Fm6(9) Ab G7(#5)

13

just be - come a lot of trou - ble.

Fm D G7 Ab13 G7 G7 Ab13(#4) Fm2(9) G

**Allegro** (M.M. ♩ = c. 118)

16

C2 C6 C CMaj7 C2 E Ab2 Bb2 Csus D7 AbMaj7

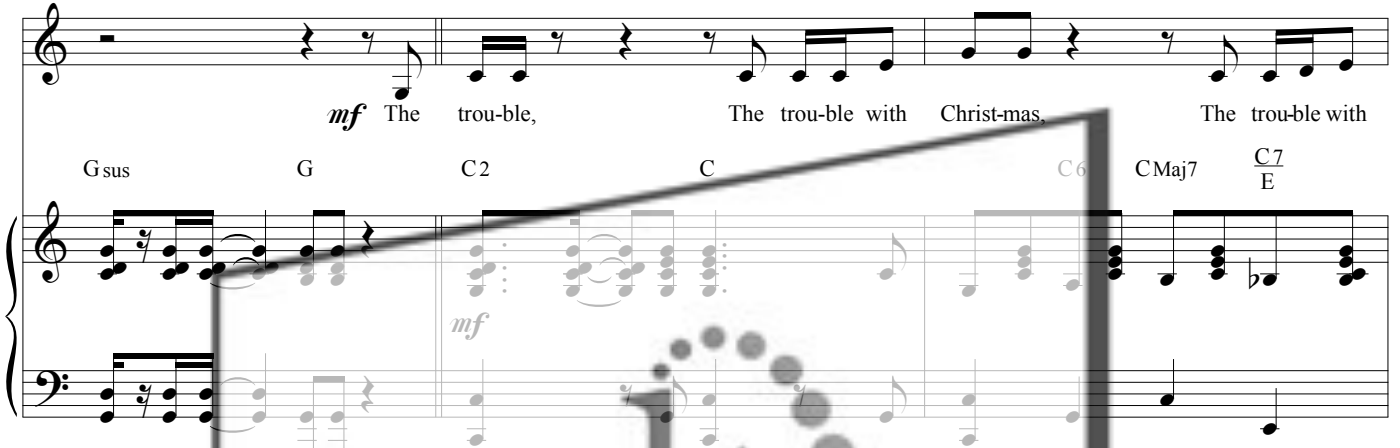
*f*

The Trouble With Christmas - 3

19

*mf* The trou-ble, The trou-ble with Christ-mas, The trou-ble with

G sus G C2 C C6 CMaj7  $\frac{C7}{E}$



22

Christ - mas, clear to see — is the prob-lem of crowds.. Ev-'rywhere you

F F6 FMaj7 F6 G sus G  $\frac{G}{B}$



24

look there's peo - ple in lines, there's peo - ple in cars, there's peo - ple all head-ing to all — the same

CMaj7 C7 C6 CMaj7 CMaj7 C7 C6 CMaj7



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26

plac-es and park - ing lot spac - es and ev - 'ry-one's late! They're late! The trou - ble with

They're late! The trou - ble with

DbMaj7 Db7 Db6 Db7 D7 Eb7 Em7 A9sus A7

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28

Christ-mas, Is def - in - ite - ly, crowds! The

Christ-mas, Is def - in - ite - ly crowds!

not for print

F2/D F/G G Bb9 C N.C. Gsus AD G

31

trou-ble, The trou-ble with Christ-mas, The trou-ble with Christ-mas, clear to see \_\_\_ is the prob-lem of

C2 C C6 CMaj7 C7 F F6 FMaj7 F6

34

cash. There's nev-er e-nough for ev-'ry-one's list, and ev-'ry one's

G sus G G/B CMaj7 C7 C6 CMaj7

36

gift, it al - ways costs more than you thought that it should, and there's al-ways more list than dol - lars and

CMaj7 C7 C6 CMaj7 D♭Maj7 D♭6 D7 E♭7

38

cents, or checks — in the book, the trou - ble with Christ-mas, is def - in - ite - ly,  
the trou - ble with Christ-mas, is def - in - ite - ly

Em7 A9sus A7 F2/D F/G G

40

Musical score for measures 40-41. It features a vocal line with lyrics "cash!" and "The", a piano accompaniment, and a guitar part with chords Bb9, C, N.C., Ab/sus, and Ab. A large watermark "redtie MUSIC" is overlaid on the score.

42

Musical score for measures 42-43. It features a vocal line with lyrics "trou-ble, The trou-ble with Christ - mas, The trou-ble with", a piano accompaniment, and a guitar part with chords Abm/B, Db, Abm/B, Db, DbMaj7, Db7, Db6, DbMaj7, and Db7. A large watermark "redtie MUSIC" is overlaid on the score, and the text "PREVIEW ONLY" and "not for print" are also visible.

44

*Spoken*

Christ - mas, clear to see — is the prob-lem of pro-grams! First, you re -

Pro - grams!

Gb2 Eb7 G Ab sus Ab Ab C

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46

hearse, and then — you re-hearse, and here's — an i - dea, how 'bout — we re-hearse? First with the

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DbMaj7 Abm7(#5) Db6(9) Abm7(#5) DbMaj7 Abm7(#5) Db6(9) Abm7(#5)

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48

band and then \_\_\_\_\_ with the choir, Af-ter fort-y five years, I'd like \_\_\_\_\_ to re-tire! the trou-ble with

the trou-ble with

DMaj7 D7 D6 D7 Eb7 E7 Fm7 Bb9sus Bb7

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MUSIC

50

Christ - mas, Is def - in - ite - lly, pro - grams!

Christ - mas, Is def - in - ite - lly pro - grams!

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Gb2 Eb Gb Ab B9 Db

52

Musical score for measures 52-53. The score includes vocal lines and piano accompaniment. The key signature is B-flat major. The lyrics are: "The trou-ble, The trou-ble with Trou-ble trou-ble".

Chords:  $D\flat_{sus}$ ,  $E\flat$ ,  $D\flat$ ,  $F$ ,  $G\flat$ ,  $A\flat$ ,  $A$ ,  $D2$ ,  $D$

54

Musical score for measures 54-55. The score includes vocal lines and piano accompaniment. The key signature is D major. The lyrics are: "Christ - mas, The trou-ble with Christ - mas, clear to see... is the prob-lem of Christ - mas.".

Chords:  $E_m$ ,  $A$ ,  $DMaj7$ ,  $D7$ ,  $G$ ,  $G6$ ,  $GMaj7$ ,  $G6$



56

gifts. Ne-ver know what to buy, — for the wife to buy — for the

Gifts, — those gifts!

Asus A C# DMaj7 D7 D6 DMaj7

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MUSIC

58

kids, to buy — for the boss, who like — ly re — gifts it at — the next off — ice part — y and you'll

DMaj7 D7 D6 DMaj7 EbMaj7 Eb7 Eb6 Eb7 E7 F7

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60

get it back — the next year, the trou - ble with Christ - mas, Is def - i - nite - ly,  
the trou - ble with Christ - mas, Is def - i - nite - ly

F#m7 B9sus B7 G2/E G/A A

redtie  
MUSIC

62

gifts! And then you have to wrap them, and you run out of  
gifts! Wrap them!

C9 D C2 D Am7(4)

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64

tape, And the line that you cut on the pa - per for the gifts, its ne - ver straight.

Scotch tape!

C2 D Am7 D Am7 G G6 GMaj7 G6

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66

So you try a bag, but the gift's too big, and it splits the

Ne - ver straight! ooo

A sus A A C# DMaj7 D7 D6 D7

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68

side, and the gift falls out, and it hits the floor and it breaks in two and you're back to the

DMaj7 D7 D6 D7 EbMaj7 Eb7 Eb6 Eb7 E7 F7

70

start, head-in' back to the store. The trou - ble with Christ-mas, Is def - in - ite - ly,  
The trou - ble with Christ-mas, Is def - in - ite - ly,

F#m7 B9sus B7 G2/E G/A A

72

gifs!

It's gifs, the gifs!

D Am7 Dsus D N.C.

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Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 72 and 73. It features a vocal line with lyrics, a piano accompaniment, and a guitar part. The guitar part includes chords D, Am7, Dsus, D, and N.C. A large, semi-transparent watermark for 'redtie MUSIC' is overlaid on the score, along with the text 'PREVIEW ONLY' and 'not for print'.

74

*mf*

*mf* Trou-ble, trou-ble, The trou - ble with Christ - mas!

D2(no3)

*mf* Jam

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 74 and 75. It features a vocal line with lyrics, a piano accompaniment, and a guitar part. The guitar part includes a chord D2(no3) and the instruction 'mf Jam'. A large, semi-transparent watermark for 'redtie MUSIC' is overlaid on the score, along with the text 'PREVIEW ONLY' and 'not for print'.

76

Musical score for measures 76-77. The score includes vocal lines and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Trou-ble, trou-ble, The trou - ble with Christ - mas!". The piano part features a watermark for "redtie MUSIC".

78

Musical score for measures 78-79. The score includes vocal lines and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "mf Yes, my friends, — it's a hap - py time, It's a joy-ous time, — the best time of the year, — Trou-ble, trou-ble, The trou - ble with Christ - mas!". The piano part features a watermark for "redtie MUSIC" and the text "not for print".



80

Musical score for measures 80-81. The score includes vocal lines and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "But, my friends, I am sad to say there is trouble at Christmas, Christmas, Trouble, trouble, The trouble with Christmas!"

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82

Musical score for measures 82-83. The score includes vocal lines and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Trou - ble, trou - ble, trou - ble, trou - ble,". Chord symbols are provided below the vocal line: EbMaj7, Bbm7(#5), Eb6(9), Bbm7(#5), EbMaj7, Bbm7(#5), Eb6(9), Bbm7(#5).

84

There's trou-ble with crowds, there's trou-ble with cash, there's trou-ble with pro - grams, There's a

Trou - ble, Trou - ble, Trou - ble, Trou - ble,

Trou - ble, trou - ble, trou - ble, trou - ble,

*E♭Maj7 B♭m7(#5) E♭6(9) B♭m7(#5) E♭Maj7 B♭m7(#5) E♭6(9) B♭m7(#5)*

86

*cresc.* car - ol sing, tree lighting, sing-in' at the Mall night, lit - tle kids in bath - robes tell the Christ - mas stor - y, and

*cresc.* Trou - ble, Trou - ble, Trou - ble, Trou - ble.

Trou - ble, trou - ble, trou - ble, trou - ble,

*E♭Maj7 B♭m7(#5) E♭6(9) B♭m7(#5) E♭Maj7 B♭m7(#5) E♭6(9) B♭m7(#5)*

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*ad lib*

con-certs ev'-ry sin-gle night! Ev'-ry sin-gle night!

ev'-ry sin-gle night? Fa la la, fa la la, fa la

Fa la la la la la, fa la

*ff*

redtie  
MUSIC

la la la la la la la fa la la la la la!

not for print

Fm Bb Ab B F# B

93

*Sing!*

Musical score for measures 93-95. It features a vocal line, a piano accompaniment, and a grand staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The vocal line starts with a rest, followed by the lyrics "The trou-ble with Christ - mas," and "The trou-ble with". The piano accompaniment includes a grand staff with chords and arpeggiated figures. Chord symbols above the grand staff are E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>, A<sup>b</sup>7<sup>2</sup> B<sup>b</sup>, and E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>. The dynamic marking *ff* is present.

96

Musical score for measures 96-98. It features a vocal line, a piano accompaniment, and a grand staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The vocal line starts with a rest, followed by the lyrics "Christ - mas," and "Is -". The piano accompaniment includes a grand staff with chords and arpeggiated figures. Chord symbols above the grand staff are B<sup>b</sup>m7, B<sup>b</sup>m9, A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>, and D<sup>b</sup> B. The dynamic marking *ff* is present.

redtie

MUSIC

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100

- Prob-ab - ly me! \_\_\_\_\_

The trou - ble with Christ - mas,

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MUSIC

Chords: EbMaj7, Bbm7(#5), Eb6(9), Bbm7(#5)

103

The trou - ble with Christ - mas, The trou - ble with Christ - mas is

not for print

Chords: EbMaj7, Bbm7(#5), Eb6(9), Bbm7(#5), EbMaj7, Bbm7(#5), EMaj9(6,#11)

105

Me? Bah, hum - bug!

him!

Chords: Gb7(9), Bb, EMaj7(#11), Eb (n.c.)

The musical score consists of four staves. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics 'Me?' and 'Bah, hum - bug!'. The second staff is another vocal line with the lyric 'him!'. The bottom two staves are piano accompaniment. Chords are indicated above the piano staves: Gb7(9) and Bb above the first measure, EMaj7(#11) above the second measure, and Eb (n.c.) above the third measure.

