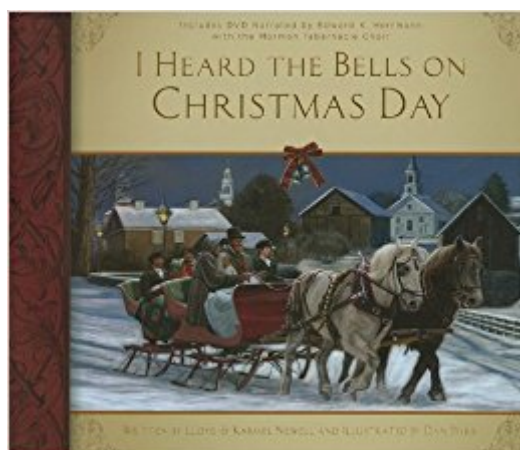


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# I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day



## Synopsis

The great American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow has long been revered for his classic literary works. His poem Christmas Bells has become one of our most well-known and beloved Christmas carols, I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day. What is less known is the story behind the poem. Reeling from the tragic death of his wife and the crippling war wounds of his son, Longfellow penned the words to Christmas Bells during one of the darkest times in American history. And while the words reflect his obvious despair and grief, it is the triumphant message of peace on earth, good will to men for which this song and Longfellow's personal story is remembered. Beautifully written and illustrated, this story will touch your heart as it did for thousands of concertgoers who heard it presented by Edward Hermann and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir at their annual Christmas concert in 2008. A DVD of that presentation is included in the book.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

His poem "Christmas Bells" was later set to music. As fifth-graders, my brother and I each were introduced to this poem by our teacher. We lived in Wilmington, Delaware then. It was then I learned the carol, too, and it has always been a favorite of ours. Now as a resident of Portland, Maine, where Longfellow resided and where his home is located, I have had the privilege of seeing the original gardens and the house interior. My brother is in a nursing home and is losing his memory, but he is getting this as a Christmas present (a little early just to be safe) so he will have another happy living memory. Every child should be introduced to this poet and the story--and every adult

not familiar with it should do themselves a great favor. It makes a wonderful gift at any age. Edouard Herrmann is an excellent narrator!Squeeker

Enhanced with the inclusion of a DVD performance by Edward Herrmann and Mormon Tabernacle Choir, "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" is a beautiful package of both book and DVD that tells the story of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and the writing of his famous poem, "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day." Written at a crucial time in American history just before the end of the Civil War, the poem has come to symbolize faith in a good and peaceful future in a time of chaos and war. How it was written, the family history surrounding Longfellow's crisis of faith, and the eventual setting of the edited poem to the hymn tune "Waltham," by John Baptiste Calkin, all details are wound into a wonderful book for families to share in the upcoming holiday season. The final treat is the DVD performance of the famous carol by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, narrated by Edward Herrmann. "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" highlights a classic poet's struggles with life and faith, with golden results.Nancy LorraineSenior Reviewer

I had no idea just how much I would enjoy this book and DVD! The writing and artwork are both very well done. The story behind the beautiful carol brought tears to my eyes. The book is such a powerful reminder that even in a world that can bring great sadness and pain, hope and faith can triumph. I wish the book could be republished to bring the cost down for families. The copy I bought was used but arrived in perfect condition thanks to the seller. This is a book I will reread every Christmas and whenever life throws heartache my way! It will forever remind me that there is much to live for--just like the carol does!

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