

Party at Pascal's

Fast yet surprisingly well articulated

Scott Sheffield

Piano

There's an emp-ty room in the Pas-cal home. Then Pas - cal walks in and it's clear-ly time to play

Pno.

6 one game of sol-i-taire in one big room. There's a knock knock knock at the

Pno.

11 Pas - cal door. Now we've got one more, so it's clear - ly time to play one game of chess and

15

two games of so-li-taire in one big room. There's a knock knock knock at the

Pno.

20

Pas-cal door. Now we've got one more so it's clear-ly time to play one game of mon-key in the mid-dle,

Pno.

24

three games of chess and three games of so-li-taire in one big room. There's a

Pno.

29

knock knock knock at the Pas-cal door. Now we've got one more so it's clear-ly time to play one game of bridge,

Pno.

34

four games of mon-key in the mid - dle, six games of chess and four games of so - li - taire in

Pno.

37

one big room. There's a knock knock knock at the Pas - cal door. Now we've

Pno.

42

got one more so it's clear - ly time to play one game of Risk, five games of bridge,

Pno.

46

ten games of mon-key in the mid - dle, ten games of chess and five games of so - li - taire in one big

Pno.

50

room. There's a knock knock knock at the Pas-cal door. Now we've got one more, so it's

Pno.

55

clear-ly time to play one game of Chi-nese check-ers, six games of Risk, fif-teen games of bridge,

Pno.

59

twen-ty games of mon-key in the mid-dle, fif-teen games of chess and six games of so-li-taire in

Pno.

62

one big room. There's a knock knock knock at the Pas-cal door. Now we've

Pno.

67

got one more, so it's clear-ly time to play one game of Se-ven Won-ders, se-ven games of Chi-nese check-ers,

Pno.

71

twen-ty one games of Risk, thir-ty five games of bridge, thir-ty five games of mon-key in the mid-dle,

Pno.

74

twen-ty one games of chess and se-ven games of so-li-taire in one big room.

Pno.

78

There's a knock knock knock at the Pas-cal door. Now we've got one more, so it's clear-ly time to play

Pno.

83

one country wes-tern square dance, -eight games of Se-ven Won-ders, twen-ty eight games of Chi-nese check-ers,

Pno.

86

fif-ty six games of Risk, se-ven-ty games of bridge, fif-ty six games of mon-key in the mid-dle,

Pno.

89

twen-ty eight games of chess and eight games of so-li-taire in one big room.

Pno.

93

There's a knock knock knock at the Pas-cal door. Now we've got one more, so it's clear-ly time to take

Pno.

98

one voy-age in a crew boat, nine country wes-tern square danc-es, thir-ty six games of Se-ven Won - ders,

Pno.

101

eight-y four games of Chi-nese check - ers, one twenty six games of Risk, one twenty six games of bridge,

Pno.

104

eight-y four games of mon-key in the mid-dle, thir-ty six games of chess and nine games of so-li-taire in

Pno.

107

one big room. There's a knock knock knock at the Pas - cal door. Now we've

Pno.

112

got one more, so it's clear-ly time to play one game of full court bas-ket-ball, ten vo-yag-es in crew boats,

Pno.

117

for-ty five coun-try wes-tern square danc-es, one twen-ty games of Se-ven Won-ders,

Pno.

119

two ten games of Chi-nese check-ers, two fif-ty two games of Risk, two ten games of bridge,

Pno.

122

one twen-ty games of mon-key in the mid-dle, for-ty five games of chess and

Pno.

124

ten games of so - li - taire in one big room.

Pno.

Q: How can one room be large enough for a basketball court and a rowing pool?

A: It's a big room. This fact is repeated several times. Please pay attention.

Q: Why does Pascal have a live cox for his crew boat but no live caller for his square dance?

A: Rowing without a live cox is considerably more dangerous than square dancing to a recorded caller.

Q: Is this another parody of "12 Days of Christmas"?

A: Absolutely not, but since you ask, I will say this: the total number of gifts given on the k th day of Christmas is $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + k$, which is equal to $k(k+1)/2$, which is the number of chess games played the k th time chess is mentioned. The cumulative number of gifts given on Christmas days 1 through k is $k(k+1)(k+2)/6$, which is the number of monkey in the middle games played the k th time monkey in the middle is mentioned. The number of *types* of gifts given on the k th day of Christmas is simply k , which is the number of solitaire games played the k th time solitaire is mentioned. In short, mathematically speaking, all the interesting patterns in "12 Days of Christmas" are also encoded in "Party at Pascal's".

Q: They play a lot of games, don't they?

A: The total number of games played at Pascal's house when k people are present is 2^k (if you count the room itself as an "empty game"), which is the number of subsets of a k -person set. That sounds like a lot, but it's nothing compared to what happens at the end of the party, when somebody insists that the **10** guests line up (in all **10!** permutations) for photographs.

Q: What if more guests arrive?

A: Proceed with a refereed basketball game, a volleyball game, a witches' coven, a 14-piece jazz band, a 5-4-3-2-1 cheerleader pyramid, a double square dance, a double square dance with a live caller, a baseball game, a 19-piece chamber orchestra, a lacrosse game, a 6-5-4-3-2-1 cheerleader pyramid, a soccer game, and a round of "Let's see if two of us share a birthday".