

A Christmas Lullaby

Sleep, baby, sleep, the Mother sings:
The angels kneel and fold their wings:
With swathes of scented hay thy bed
By Mary's hand at eve was spread.
Sleep, baby, sleep, sleep, baby, sleep, sleep,
Thou liest slumb'ring there,
Sleep, baby, sleep, sleep, baby, sleep,
The King of kings, earth, ocean, air,
The King of kings, earth, ocean, air.

At midnight came the shepherds, they
Whom seraphs wakened by the way.
And three kings from the east afar
Ere dawn came guided by thy star.
Sleep, baby, sleep, sleep, baby, sleep, sleep,
The shepherds sing:
Sleep, baby, sleep, sleep, baby, sleep,
Through heav'n, through earth, hosannas ring.
Through heav'n, through earth, hosannas ring.

John Addington Symonds (1840–1893)

Adapted by Stephen Chatman

Publisher's Note

A Christmas Lullaby is also available from the publisher in a version
for mixed chorus unaccompanied (Catalog No. 7.0454).

“A Christmas Lullaby” from *Carols of the Nativity*

for SSAA Chorus unaccompanied

John Addington Symonds (1840–1893)
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Slowly, tenderly ♩ = 58–60*

pp *poco p* *poco rit.*

Soprano 1
Sleep, ba-by, sleep, the Moth-er sings: The an-gels kneel and fold their

Soprano 2
pp *poco p*
Loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -

Alto 1
pp *div. poco p* *unis.*
Loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -

Alto 2
pp *poco p*
Loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -

Keyboard
(for rehearsal only)
Slowly, tenderly ♩ = 58–60* *poco rit.*

* In 2009, the composer changed the metronome marking to ♩ = 58–60.

4 *pp*, *a tempo* *poco p* *poco rit.*

wings: With swathes of scent - ed hay thy bed By Ma - ry's hand at eve was

pp *poco p*

lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -

pp *poco p* *div. unis.*

lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -

pp *poco p* *div.*

lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -

a tempo *poco rit.*

8 *pp*, *a tempo* *poco rit.* *a tempo*

spread. Sleep, ba - by, sleep, sleep, ba - by, sleep, sleep, Thou li - est slum - b'ring there,

pp *poco rit.*

lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah,

pp *poco rit.*

lah, loo lah, loo - lah, loo - lah,

pp *poco rit.*

lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah,

a tempo *poco rit.* *a tempo*

13 *poco p* *ten.* *ten.*

Sleep, ba - by, sleep, — sleep, ba - by, sleep, — The King of

poco p *ten.* *ten.*

loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -

poco p *ten.* *ten.* *div.*

loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -

poco p *ten.* *ten.*

loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -

18 *poco rit.* **Slower** *pp* *poco rit.*

kings, earth, o - cean, air, The King of kings, earth, o - cean, air.

pp *pp*

lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah.

unis. *pp*

lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah.

pp

lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah.

Slower

poco rit. *poco rit.*

Verse II *

Tempo primo meno mosso

(21) *pp* sempre (unison or solo[s])

S 1

At mid-night came the shep-herds, they Whom ser-aphs wak - ened by the

pp sempre (unison or solo[s])

At mid-night came the shep-herds, they Whom ser-aphs wak ened

S 2

pp sempre

Loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -

A 1

pp sempre

Loo - lah, loo lah, loo lah, loo -

A 2

pp sempre

Loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -

Tempo primo meno mosso

* Optional: In lieu of mm. 22-47, the music of Verse I may be repeated using the text of Verse II.

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way. And three kings from the east a - far Ere dawn came guid - ed by thy

by the way. And three kings from the east a - far Ere dawn came guid - ed

lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -

lah, _____ loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, _____ loo -

lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -

div. unis.

The musical score consists of six systems. The first five systems are vocal staves in G major, 4/4 time. The first system has lyrics: "way. And three kings from the east a - far Ere dawn came guid - ed by thy". The second system has lyrics: "by the way. And three kings from the east a - far Ere dawn came guid - ed". The third system has lyrics: "lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -". The fourth system has lyrics: "lah, _____ loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, _____ loo -". The fifth system has lyrics: "lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -". The sixth system is a piano accompaniment with two staves. A large watermark "Copying is illegal only" is overlaid diagonally across the page.

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star. Sleep, ba-by, sleep, sleep, ba-by, sleep, sleep, The shep-herds sing: Sleep, ba-by,

by the star. Sleep, ba-by, sleep, sleep, ba-by, sleep, sleep, The shep-herds sing: Sleep,

lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -

lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -

lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo -

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sleep, — Sleep, ba-by, sleep, — Through heav'n, through earth, ho-san-nas

ba-by, sleep, — sleep, ba-by, sleep, — Through heav'n, through earth, ho-

lah, — loo - lah, — loo - lah, loo -

lah, — loo - lah, — loo - lah, — loo -

lah, — loo - lah, — loo - lah, — loo -

lah, — loo - lah, — loo - lah, — loo -

lah, — loo - lah, — loo - lah, — loo -

div. *unis.*

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ring. Sleep, ba-by, sleep, — Sleep, ba-by, sleep, — Through heav'n, through

san - nas ring. Sleep, ba-by, sleep, — sleep, ba-by, sleep, — Through

lah, loo - lah, — loo - lah, — loo -

div. *unis.* *div.*

lah, — loo - lah, — loo - lah, — loo -

lah, loo - lah, — loo - lah, — loo -

lah, — loo - lah, — loo -

44 *poco rit.* **Slower** *rit.*

earth, ho - san - nas ring. Through heav'n, through earth, ho - san - nas ring.

heav'n, through earth, ho - san - nas ring. Through heav'n, through earth, — ring.

lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah.

unis. *div.* *unis.*

lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah.

lah, loo - lah, loo - lah, loo - lah.

Slower

poco rit. *rit.*

September 16, 2002 (mixed chorus)
 arr. May 30, 2004 (SSAA)
 Vancouver, B.C.
 2'35"