



Christopher Beardsley

A Christmas Lullaby
for unaccompanied SATB choir

CHRISTOPHER BEARDSLEY
A Christmas Lullaby

Sleep, baby, sleep! The Mother sings;
Heaven's angels kneel and fold their wings:
Sleep, baby, sleep!

With swathes of scented hay thy bed
By Mary's hand at eve was spread.
Sleep, baby, sleep!

At midnight came the shepherds, they
Whom seraphs wakened by the way.
Sleep, baby, sleep!

And three kings from the East afar
Ere dawn came, guided by thy star.
Sleep, baby, sleep!

They brought thee gifts of gold and gems,
Pure orient pearls, rich diadems.
Sleep, baby, sleep!

But thou who liest slumbering there,
Art King of Kings, earth, ocean, air.
Sleep, baby, sleep!

Sleep, baby, sleep! The shepherds sing:
Through heaven, through earth, hosannas ring.
Sleep, baby, sleep!

John Addington Symonds: A Christmas Lullaby

Duration: 3 minutes

A Christmas Lullaby

John Addington Symonds

Christopher Beardsley

Gently (♩=60)

SOPRANO
The Mo - ther sings: _____ Heav-en's an - gels kneel _____

ALTO
pp, gently rocking
Sleep, ba-by, sleep! sleep, ba-by, sleep, _____ sleep, ba-by,

TENOR
pp, gently rocking
Sleep, ba-by, sleep! sleep, ba-by, sleep, _____ sleep, ba-by,

BASS
pp, gently rocking
Sleep, ba-by, sleep! sleep, ba-by, sleep, _____ sleep, ba-by,

Piano (rehearsal only)
pp, gently rocking

S.
_____ and fold their wings. With swathes of scent-ed hay _____ Thy bed _____

A.
sleep, _____ Sleep, ba-by,sleep! Sleep, ba - by,sleep. ba-by,sleep, Sleep, ba-by,

T.
sleep, Sleep, ba-by,sleep! Sleep, ba - by,sleep. ba-by, sleep, Sleep, ba-by,

B.
sleep, _____ Sleep, ba-by,sleep! Sleep, ba - by,sleep. ba-by,sleep, Sleep, ba-by,

Pno.

13

S. *pp*
By Ma-ry's hand _____ at eve was spread. _____ Sleep _____

A. *pp*
sleep, ba-by, sleep, ba-by, sleep, _____ Sleep, ba-by, sleep! Sleep, ba-by, sleep,

T. *p*
sleep, ba-by, sleep, ba-by, sleep, _____ Sleep, ba-by, sleep! At mid - night came the

B. *pp*
sleep, ba-by, sleep, ba-by, sleep, Sleep, ba-by, sleep! Sleep, _____

Pno. *pp*



19

S. sleep, ba-by, sleep, Sleep, ba by, sleep, sleep, ba by, sleep, ba-by, alssp,

A. sleep, Sleep, _____ sleep, ba by, sleep, ba-by, alssp,

T. *mf*
shep - herds, they Whom the ser - aphs wa - kened by the way And

B. *mf*
sleep, ba-by, sleep, Sleep, _____ sleep, _____ ba-by, sleep, And

Pno. *mf*

23

S. *mp* Sleep, ba - by, sleep, *mf* ba-by, sleep, guid - ed by the star. *mf* They

A. *mp* Sleep, ba - by, sleep, *mf* ba-by, sleep, guid - ed by the star.

T. three Kings from the East a - far, Ere dawn came guid - ed by the star.

B. three Kings from the East a - far, Ere dawn came guid - ed by the star.

Pno. *mp* *mf* *mf*



28

S. *mf* brought Thee gifts of gold and gems, Pure ori-ent pearls, rich di - a-dems. Sleep, ba - by,

A. *mp* Sleep, sleep, sleep, *mf* ba - by, Sleep, ba - by,

T. *mp* Sleep, sleep, sleep, *mf* ba - by, Thou who li-est slumb' ring

B. *mp* Sleep, sleep, sleep, *mf* ba - by, Thou who li-est slumb' ring

Pno. *mf* *mp* *mf*

33

S. *f* *sub. p*
 sleep, King, King of Kings, King, King of Kings...

A. *f* *sub. p*
 sleep, sleep, King, King of Kings, King, King of Kings...

T. *f* *sub. p*
 there, Art King of Kings, earth, o-ccean, air. King of Kings, King, King of Kings...

B. *f* *sub. p* *p*
 there, Art King of Kings, King, King of Kings, King, King of Kings... The

Pno. *f* *sub. p*

40

S. *p* *mf*
 Sleep, ba - by, sleep, The shep-herds

A. *p*
 Sleep, ba - by, sleep,

T. *p*
 Sleep, ba - by, sleep,

B. *p*
 shep - herds sing: Sleep, ba-by, sleep, sleep,

Pno. *p* *mf*

45 **accel.**

S. sing: Through hea-ven, through earth, ho-san-nas ring.

A. *mf* sleep, ba-by, sleep, Through hea ven, through earth, ho-san-nas ring.

T. *mf* sleep, ba-by, sleep, Through hea ven, through earth, ho-san-nas ring.

B. *mf* sleep, ba-by, sleep, through, earth, ho-san-nas ring.

Pno. *mf* **accel.**

50 **Slower** **rit.**

S. *f* Sleep, ba-by, sleep, Sleep, ba-by, Sleep, ba-by, sleep! *pp*

A. *f a tempo* Sleep, ba-by, sleep, Sleep, ba-by, sleep! *pp*

T. *f* Sleep, ba-by, sleep, Sleep, ba-by, sleep! *pp*

B. *f* Sleep, ba-by, sleep, Sleep, ba-by, sleep! *pp*

Pno. *f* **Slower** **rit.** *p* *pp*