

Lullabie

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Dow Partbooks (Christ Church, 1580s, Oxford MSS 984-988)

Superius

Medius

Contra

Tenor

Bassus

Lul - la

5

lul - la - by, Lul - la lul - la - by my sweet lit-tle

10

ba - by, my sweet lit-tle ba - by, what mean - est thou to cry,

15

Lul - la lul-la - by, Lul - la lul-la-by, La lul-la lul-la-by,

Detailed description: This system contains measures 15 through 19. It features a vocal line with lyrics, a piano accompaniment in the right hand, and a bass line in the left hand. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is gentle and lullaby-like.

20

La lul - la la lul-la-by, La lul-la-by, Lul - la - by, my sweet lit-tle

Detailed description: This system contains measures 20 through 24. The vocal line continues with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment and bass line provide a steady, soothing accompaniment. The melody remains simple and melodic.

25

ba - by lul - lu - by. Be still my bles - sed babe,

Detailed description: This system contains measures 25 through 29. At measure 25, there is a key change to one flat (F major/D minor). The vocal line concludes with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment and bass line continue to support the melody. The piece ends with a final cadence.

30

though cause thou hast to mourn, Whose blood most in - no-cent to shed

35

the cru - el king has sworn, And lo a - las, be -

40

hold what slaugh-ter he doth make, Shed-ding the blood of

in - fants all, sweet sav - i-our for thy sake. A king is born they

say no king this king would kill. O woe

O woe and woe - ful hea - vy day when wret - ches have their will,

55

1. 2.

when wret - ches have their will, have their will. will.

8

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a lullaby. It consists of five staves. The top staff is the vocal line, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody begins with a dotted quarter note, followed by eighth notes, and ends with a half note. A fermata is placed over the final note. Above the staff, the number '55' is written. The second staff contains the lyrics: 'when wret - ches have their will, have their will. will.' The third staff is the piano accompaniment, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. It features a melody of eighth notes. The fourth staff is the piano accompaniment, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. It features a melody of quarter notes. The fifth staff is the piano accompaniment, starting with a bass clef and a key signature of two flats. It features a melody of quarter notes. The score includes first and second endings, indicated by '1.' and '2.' above the vocal staff. A small number '8' is written below the fourth staff.