

G-8368 • ELDER • LULLABY

MUSIC *from*
WESTMINSTER

JOE MILLER, EDITOR

LULLABY

FROM THREE NOCTURNES

MUSIC BY DANIEL ELDER

FOR SATB VOICES
AND PIANO

A WESTMINSTER CHOIR COLLEGE SERIES



evoking sound choral series

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From the Composer

“Lullaby” is the final installment of *Three Nocturnes* for mixed chorus and piano. The cycle explores both observational and psychological experiences associated with love, nature, darkness, and light. Each text is original and covers these topics in different ways. “Lullaby” is a simple song of reassurance, as a mother may sing to her child to stave off a fear of the darkness and solitude of night. The beauty of this text lies in its dual nature, as it also serves to comfort those who grieve over loss. The line “the day is done, and gone the sun” has its origins in the first line of text traditionally sung to “Taps,” the tune generally played on bugle or trumpet for military funerals or to signal the end of the day.

The power of this piece lies in its simplicity, and an interpretation of tempi should reflect this. Parts should move forward gracefully but without feeling hurried. For the most part, tempo fluctuations, such as rubato, are not necessary, with the exception of the piano interludes, where a slightly more “romanticized” interpretation is welcome.

Lullaby, sing lullaby,
the day is far behind you.
The moon sits high atop the sky,
now let sweet slumber find you.
Away,
the day is done, and gone the sun
that lit the world so brightly.
The earth's aglow with speckled show
of twinkling stars so sprightly.

Away,

where the sunlight is beaming
through a deep, cloudless blue,
and the treetops are gleaming
with a fresh morning dew;
where the mountains are shining
at the meadows below,
in a brilliant white lining
of a new-fallen snow.
Close your eyes, breathe in the night;
a softer bed I'll make you.
The trial is done, all danger gone;
now let far dreaming take you.

Away,
where the ocean is lapping at a soft,
pearly shore,
and the swaying palms napping as
their swinging fronds soar.
Now the dark night approaches,
yet so soft and so mild.
Lullaby, sing lullaby;
sleep now, my child.

LULLABY

Daniel Elder
from *Three Nocturnes*

Appassionato ♩ = 78

p *p* *mf*

pedal harmonically

5 *S, A unis. p*

Lull - a - by, sing

p

9 *mp*

lull - a - by, the day is far be - hind you. The moon sits high a -

mp

13 *S p*

top the sky, now let sweet slum - ber find you. A - way,

p

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17 *S* *mf*
 the day is done, and gone the sun that

A *mp*
 A way.

T *mp*
 A way.

B *mp*
 A way.

mf

21 *div. mp*
 lit the world so bright - ly. Ah.

div. mp
 Ah.

mf
 The earth's a - glow with speck - led show of

mf
 The earth's a - glow with speck - led show of

25

unis. p *mp*
 A - way, a -
unis. p *mp*
 A - way, a -
p *mp*
 twin-ling stars so spright - ly. A - way, a -
div. p *unis. mp*
 twin-ling stars so spright - ly. A - way, a -
p *mp*
 3

29

div. mf *unis.*
 way, where the sun - light is beam - ing through a
div. mf
 way, where the sun - light through a
mf *div.*
 way, where the sun - light through a
mf *div.*
 way, where the sun - light through a
mf

41

mp

mead - ows be - low, in a bril - liant white lin - ing of a

mp

mead - ows be - low, in a bril - liant white lin - ing of a

div. mp

p

oo, ah,

mp

p

oo, ah.

45

new - fall - en snow,

new - fall - en snow.

mf

66 *unis.*

lap - ping at a soft, pearl - y shore, and the sway - ing palms

unis.

— is lap - ping at a soft, pearl - y shore, and the sway - ing palms

unis.

lap - ping at a soft — shore, sway - ing palms

lap - ping at a soft — shore, sway - ing palms

70 *mf* *p* **Meno mosso** ♩ = 72

nap - ping as their swing - ing fronds soar. Now the dark night ap -

mf *p*

nap - ping as their swing - ing fronds soar. Now the dark night,

mf *p*

nap - ping as their swing - ing fronds soar. Now the dark night,

mf *p*

nap - ping as their swing - ing fronds soar. Now the dark night,

Molto meno mosso ♩ = 66

74

proach-es, yet so soft and so mild. Lull-a-by, sing-
 yet so soft and so mild. Sleep,
 yet so soft and so mild. Sleep,
 soft and so mild. Sleep,

79

lull-a-by; sleep, my child.
 sleep now, my child.
 sleep now, my child.
 sleep now, my child.

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The *Music from Westminster* Choral Series consists of choral literature commissioned or selected for performance by the choirs at Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, New Jersey, one of the foremost centers in the United States for the study and performance of choral music. The series was created to introduce—or revive—innovative compositions into the choral literature and represents a variety of voicings, genres and levels of difficulty.



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