



A Cradle Song

John Nicholson Ireland
(1879-1962)

Sleep, sleep, beauty bright,
Dreaming in the joys of night;
Sleep, sleep; in thy sleep
Little sorrows sit and weep.

Sweet babe, in thy face
Soft desires I can trace,
Secret joys and secret smiles,
Little pretty infant wiles.

As thy softest limbs I feel
Smiles as of the morning steal
O'er thy cheek, and o'er thy breast
Where thy little heart doth rest.

O the cunning wiles that creep
In thy little heart asleep!
When thy little heart doth wake,
Then the dreadful night shall break.

William Blake (1757-1827)

A Cradle Song

John Ireland

Andante ♩ = 88

S *p* *dolciss.*
Sleep, sleep, beau - ty bright,

A *pp* *dolciss.*
Sleep, sleep, sleep, beau - ty bright,

T *pp* *dolciss.*
Sleep, sleep, sleep, beau - ty bright,

B *pp* *dolciss.*
Sleep, sleep, beau - ty bright,

5
S
Dream - ing in the joys of night; Sleep, sleep; in thy sleep

A
Dream - ing in the joys of night; Sleep, sleep; in thy sleep

T
Dream - ing in the joys of night; Sleep, sleep; in thy sleep

B
Dream - ing in the joys of night; Sleep, sleep;

A Cradle Song

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S Lit - tle sor - rows sit and weep. Sweet babe,

A Lit - tle sor - rows sit and weep. Sweet babe, —

T Lit - tle sor - rows sit and weep. Sweet babe, —

B in thy sleep Lit - tle sor - rows sit and weep. Sweet babe,

13

S in thy face — Soft de - sires — I can trace, —

A in thy face — Soft de - sires I can trace, Se - cret —

T in thy face Soft de - sires — I can trace,

B in thy face Soft de - sires I can trace, Se - cret joys and

17

S Se - cret joys and se - cret smiles, — Lit - tle pret - ty in - fant

A joys and se - cret smiles, Lit - tle pret - ty in - fant

T Se - cret joys and se - cret smiles, — Lit - tle pret - ty in - fant

B se - cret smiles, Lit - tle pret - ty in - fant

A Cradle Song

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S wiles. *pp*

A wiles. *pp* (with closed lips)

T wiles. *pp* (with closed lips)

B wiles. *pp* (with closed lips)

25

S *pp* *dolciss.* As thy soft - est limbs I feel Smiles as of the morn - ing steal *poco cresc.*

A *poco cresc.*

T *poco cresc.*

B *poco cresc.*

29

S *mf* O'er thy cheek, and o'er thy breast Where thy lit - tle heart doth rest.

A *mf*

T *mf*

B *mf*

A Cradle Song

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S *pp* O the cun - ning wiles that creep — In thy lit - tle

A *pp* O the cun - ning wiles that creep — In thy lit - tle

T *pp* O the cun - ning wiles that creep — In thy lit - tle

B *pp* O the cun - ning wiles that creep — In thy lit - tle

37

S heart a - sleep! — When thy lit - tle heart doth wake, —

A heart a - sleep! When thy lit - tle heart doth wake, — Then the

T heart a - sleep! When thy lit - tle heart doth wake, —

B heart a - sleep! When thy lit - tle heart doth wake, — Then the

41

S *cresc. molto* Then the dread - ful night shall break. — *f* Then the dread - ful night shall *dim.*

A *cresc. molto* dread - ful night shall break. — *f* Then the dread - ful night shall *dim.*

T *cresc. molto* Then the dread - ful night shall break. — *f* Then the dread - ful night shall *dim.*

B *cresc. molto* dread - ful — night shall break. — *f* The dread - ful night shall *dim.*

A Cradle Song

45

S
break. Sleep, sleep, beau - ty bright.

A
break. Sleep, beau - ty bright.

T
break. Sleep, beau - ty bright.

B
break. Sleep, sleep, sleep, beau - ty bright. Sleep!

Stainer & Bell
(1914)

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