

What child is this who, laid to rest

Traditional English Melody

Greensleeves
87.87.68.67

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The piece begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The melody starts with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The bass line starts with a quarter note G2, followed by a quarter note A2, a quarter note B2, and a quarter note C3. The piece continues with a series of chords and single notes, ending with a measure containing a five-measure rest.

The second system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody continues from the first system, starting with a quarter note D5, followed by a quarter note E5, a quarter note F#5, and a quarter note G5. The bass line continues with a quarter note D3, followed by a quarter note E3, a quarter note F#3, and a quarter note G3. The piece continues with a series of chords and single notes, ending with a measure containing a five-measure rest.

The third system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody continues from the second system, starting with a quarter note A5, followed by a quarter note B5, a quarter note C6, and a quarter note D6. The bass line continues with a quarter note A3, followed by a quarter note B3, a quarter note C4, and a quarter note D4. The piece continues with a series of chords and single notes, ending with a measure containing a five-measure rest.

What Child is this who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh,
Come peasant, king to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise a song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

William C. Dix