

Coventry Carol

Robert Croo, 1534

16th century English melody
arr. Richard Hubbard

Briskly ♩ = 164

The musical score is arranged in three systems. The first system (measures 1-6) features a vocal line in G minor, 3/4 time, with lyrics "Lul-ly, lul - la, thou". The piano accompaniment includes a Tenor Drum part with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and a keyboard part with chords and a bass line. The second system (measures 7-12) continues the vocal line with lyrics "lit-tle ti - ny child, by by, lul ly lul - lay." and includes piano accompaniment. The third system (measures 13-18) is for Soprano and Alto voices, with lyrics "O sis - ters too, how may we do for to pre - serve this day this poor young -". The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line. A large "INSPECTION COPY ONLY" watermark is overlaid diagonally across the score.

The Coventry Carol is usually sung quietly, as a traditional lullaby. The words, however, speak of bitterness and hatred, and in this arrangement the text is treated with a degree of sarcasm: "Sleep well, little boy - Herod's going to kill you in the morning!" The tempo should be brisk, and the vocal style crisp and articulate. "Lully lulla" is pronounced "looly loolah" (as in "look"), and "lullay" is "loolay". The accompaniment is best played using a harpsichord sound on a digital keyboard.

21

ling for whom we do sing, by by, lul - ly, lul - lay?_____

28

f Lul - ly, lul - la, thou lit - tle ti - ny child, by by, lul - ly lul -

34

- lay. *ff* He - rod the king, in his rag - ing, *ff* He - rod the king, rag - ing,