

Lullaby my sweet little baby

Psalmes, sonets, & songs, 1588, no.32

William Byrd

Superius [Soprano]
Medius [Alto]
Contratenor [Alto]
Tenor [Tenor]
Bassus [Bass]

The first singing part

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

S.
A.
A.
T.
B.

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

S.
A.
A.
T.
B.

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- by, my sweet lit - tle ba - by, my sweet lit - tle
- by, my sweet lit - tle ba - by,
- by, my sweet lit - tle ba - by, ba - by, my sweet lit - tle
- by, my sweet lit - tle, lit - tle ba -
my sweet lit - tle ba - by, my sweet lit - tle

S. *ba - by, my sweet lit - tle ba - by, what mean - est thou*

A. *my sweet lit - tle ba - by, what mean - est thou*

A. *ba - by, ba - by, what mean - est thou to*

T. *-by, my sweet lit - tle ba - by, what mean - est thou to*

B. *ba - by, what mean - est thou to cry, to*

S. *to cry, Lul - la, lul - la - by, la lul - la, lul -*

A. *to cry, Lul - la, lul - la - by,*

A. *cry, Lul - la, lul - la - by, la lul - la, lul - la -*

T. *cry, Lul - la, lul - la - by, lul - la -*

B. *cry, Lul - la, lul - la - by, la lul - la, lul - la*

S. *- la, lul - la - by, la lul - la, lul - la - by, la*

A. *lul - la, lul - la - by, la lul - la, lul - la - by,*

A. *- by, la lul - la, lul - la - by, la lul - la, lul - la - by, la*

T. *- by, by la lul - la - by,*

B. *lul - la - by, la lul - la - by, la*

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S. lul - la, la lul - la - by, la lul - la - by, la lul -

A. la lul - la, la lul - la - by, la lul - la - by,

A. lul - la, lul - la - by, la lul - la - by, la lul - la

T. la lul - la, la lul - la - by, la lul - la, lul -

B. lul - la - by, la lul - la, lul - la, la lul - la, lul - la, la

[o → o]

S. - la - by, lul - la - by, my sweet lit - tle ba - by, ba - - by.

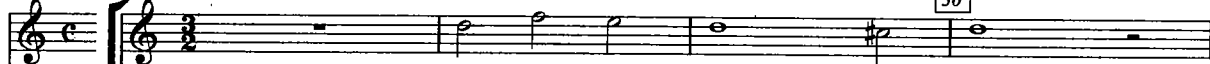
A. Lul - la - by, my sweet lit - tle ba - - - by.

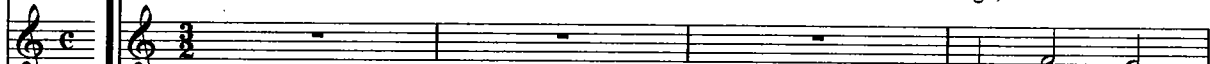
A. lul - la - by my sweet lit - tle ba - by, sweet ba - by.

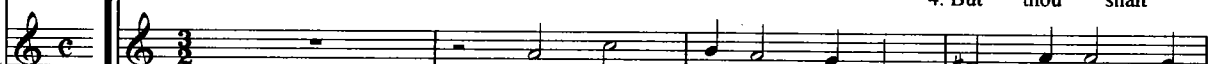
T. - la - by, lul - la - by my sweet lit - tle ba - by, ba - by.

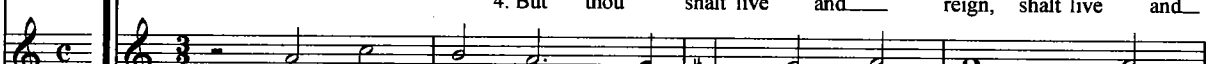
B. lul - la - by, lul - la - by, my sweet lit - tle ba - by.

The Second Part

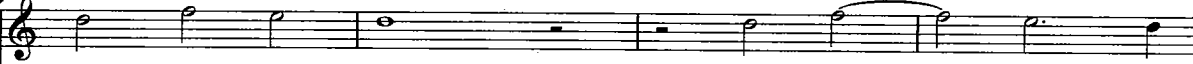
S. 
 1. Be still my bles - sed babe,
 2. Three kings this King of kings,
 3. Lo, my lit - tle babe,
 4. But thou shalt live and reign,

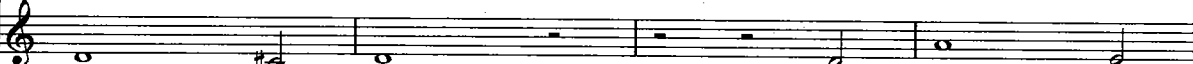
A. 
 1. Be still my
 2. Three kings this
 3. Lo, my
 4. But thou shalt

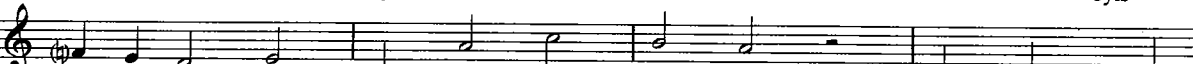
A. 
 1. Be still my bles - sed babe, my bles - sed
 2. Three kings this King of kings, this King of
 3. Lo, my lit - tle babe, my lit - tle
 4. But thou shalt live and reign, shalt live and

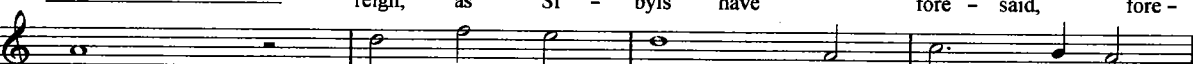
T. 
 1. Be still my bles - sed babe, bles - sed babe, be
 2. Three kings this King of kings, King of kings, three
 3. Lo, my lit - tle babe, lit - tle babe, lo,
 4. But thou shalt live and reign, live and reign, but

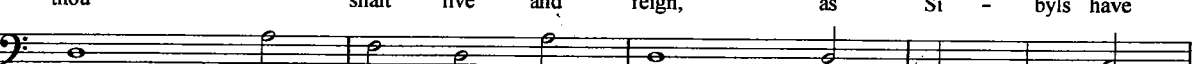
B. 
 1. Be still my bles - sed babe, bles - sed babe, be
 2. Three kings this King of kings, King of kings, three
 3. Lo, my lit - tle babe, lit - tle babe, lo,
 4. But thou shalt live and reign, live and reign, but

S. 
 my bles - sed babe, though cause thou hast
 this King of kings to see are come
 my lit - tle babe, be still, la - ment
 shalt live and reign, as Si - byls have

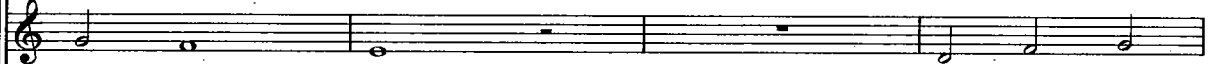
A. 
 bles - sed babe, though cause thou
 King of kings, to see are come
 lit - tle babe, be still, la -
 live and reign, as Si - byls

A. 
 babe, though cause thou hast
 kings, to see are come
 babe, be still, la - ment
 reign, as Si - byls have fore - said, fore -

T. 
 still my bles - sed babe, though cause thou hast
 kings this King of kings, to see are come
 lo, my lit - tle babe, be still, la - ment
 thou shalt live and reign, as Si - byls have

B. 
 still my bles - sed babe, though cause thou hast
 kings this King of kings, to see are come
 lo, my lit - tle babe, be still, la - ment
 thou shalt live and reign, as Si - byls have

S. 
 _____ to mourn, though cause thou hast to mourn,
 _____ from far, to see are come from far,
 _____ no more, be still, la - ment no more,
 _____ fore - said, as Si - byls have fore - said,

A. 
 hast to mourn: whose blood most
 come from far, to each un -
 - ment no more, from each fu - ry un -
 have fore - said, as all the

A. 
 _____ mourn: whose blood most in - no - cent to -
 _____ far, to each un - known, with off - er - ings
 _____ more, from fu - ry shalt thou step a -
 _____ said, as all the Pro - phets pro - phe -

T. 
 to mourn, to _____ mourn: whose blood most in - no -
 from far, from _____ far, to each un - known, un -
 no more, no _____ more, from fu - ry shalt thou
 fore - said, fore - said, as all the Pro - phets

B. 
 _____ to from mourn: whose blood most in - no - cent
 _____ from far, to each un - known, _____ with
 _____ no more, from fu - ry shalt thou _____
 _____ fore - said, as all the Pro - phets pro -

40

S. 
 whose blood most in - no - cent to shed _____ the cru - el
 to each un - known, with off - 'rings great, _____ by guid - ing
 from fu - ry shalt thou step a - side, _____ help have we
 as all the Pro - phets pro - phe - sy, _____ whose mo - ther

A. 
 in - no - cent to shed, the cru - el king
 known, with off - 'rings great, the cru - el king
 shalt thou step a - side, great, by guid - ing of
 Pro - phets pro - phe - sy, whose mo - ther yet

A. 
 shed the cru - el king hath
 great, by guid - ing of a
 - side, help have we still in
 - sy, whose mo - ther yet a

T. 
 - cent the cru - el king hath sworn, hath _____
 - known, by guid - ing of a Star, a _____
 step, help have we still in store, in _____
 _____ whose mo - ther yet a maid, a _____

B. 
 to _____ shed, to shed
 off - er - ings, off - 'rings great,
 step a - side, a - side,
 - phe - sy, pro - phe - sy,

S. king hath sworn, the cru - el king hath sworn: And
of a Star, by guid - ing of a Star: And
still in store, help have we still in store: We
yet a maid, whose mo - ther yet a maid, And

A. hath sworn: And
a Star: And
in store: We
a maid, And

A. sworn, the cru - el king hath sworn: And
Star, by guid - ing of a Star: And
store, help have we still in store: We
maid, whose mo - ther yet a maid, And

T. sworn, the cru - el king hath sworn: And lo,
Star, by guid - ing of king of a Star: And shep -
store, help have mo - ther yet a Star: We heaven -
maid, whose mo - ther yet a maid, And per -

B. the cru - el king hath sworn, hath sworn: And
by guid - ing of a Star, a Star: And
help have we still in store, in store: We
whose mo - ther yet a maid, a maid, And

50

S. lo, a - las, be - hold, what slaugh - ter
shep - herds heard the song, which an - gels
heaven - ly warn - ing have, some o - ther
per - fect vir - gin pure, with her breasts

A. lo, a - las, be - hold, what
shep - herds heard the song, which
heaven - ly warn - ing have, warn - ing have,
per - fect vir - gin pure, pure, some
with

A. lo, a - las, be - hold, be - hold,
shep - herds heard the song, the song,
heaven - ly warn - ing have, warn - ing have,
per - fect vir - gin pure, pure,

T. a - las, be - hold, what slaugh - ter he doth
herds heard the song, which an - gels did
ly warn - ing have, some o - ther soil to
fect vir - gin pure, with her breasts shall up -

B. lo, a - las, be - hold, what slaugh -
shep - herds heard the song, which an -
heaven - ly warn - ing have, some o -
per - fect vir - gin pure, with her

S. he doth make, shed - ding the blood of
 bright did sing, giv - ing all glo - ry
 soil to seek, from death must fly the
 shall up - breed both God and man, that

A. slaugh - ter he doth make,
 an - gels bright did sing,
 o - ther soil to seek,
 her breasts shall up - breed

A. what slaugh - ter he doth make, shed - ding the blood of
 which an - gels bright did sing, giv - ing all glo - ry
 some o - ther soil to seek, from death must fly the
 with her breasts shall up - breed both God and man, that

T. make, he doth make, he doth make, shed - ding the
 sing, bright did sing, bright did sing, giv - ing all
 seek, soil to seek, soil to seek, from death must
 - breed, shall up - breed, shall up - breed both God and

B. - ter he doth make, what slaugh - ter he doth
 - gels bright did sing, which an - gels bright did
 - ther soil to seek, some o - ther soil to
 breasts shall up - breed, with her breasts shall up -

S. in - fants all, of in - fants
 un - to God, un - to
 Lord of life, the Lord of
 all hath made, that all hath

A. shed - ding the blood of in - fants all, sweet
 giv - ing all glo - ry un - to God, for
 from death must fly the Lord of life, as
 both God and man, that all hath made, the

A. in - fants all, sweet sa - vi - our
 un - to God, for com - ing
 Lord of life, as Lamb - both,
 all hath made, the Son of

T. blood of, of in - fants all, sweet sa - vi -
 glo - ry un - to God, for com -
 fly the Lord of life, as Lamb - both
 man that, that all hath made, the Son of

B. make, shed - ding the blood of in - fants
 sing, giv - ing all glo - ry un - to
 seek, from death must fly the Lord of
 - breed both God and man, that all hath

60

S. all, sweet sa - vi - our, for thy sake, for thy sake.
 God, for com - ing of this King, of this King.
 life, as Lamb both mild and meek, mild and meek.
 made, the Son of heav - en - ly seed, heaven - ly seed,

A. sa - vi - our, for thy sake.
 com - ing of this King,
 Lamb both mild and meek,
 Son of heaven - ly seed,

A. for thy sake, for thy sake.
 of this King, of this King.
 mild and meek, mild and meek.
 heaven - ly seed, heaven - ly seed,

T. - our, for thy sake, for thy sake.
 - ing of this King, of this King.
 mild and meek, mild and meek.
 heaven - ly seed, heaven - ly seed,

B. all, sweet sa - vi - our, for thy sake, for thy sake.
 God, for com - ing of this King, of this King.
 life, as Lamb both mild and meek, mild and meek.
 made, the Son of heav - en - ly seed, heaven - ly seed,

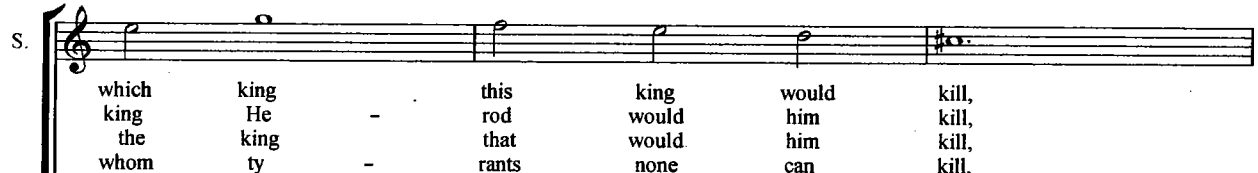
S. A king, a king is born, they say, which king this
 Which must, which must be made a - way, king He - rod
 Thus must, thus must my Babe o - bey, the king that
 Whom cai - tiffs, cai - tiffs none can tray, whom ty - rants

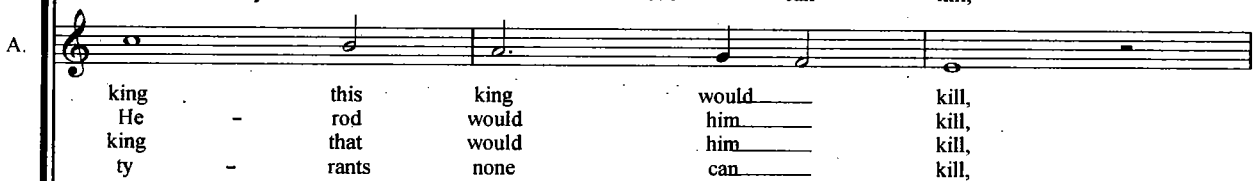
A. A king is born, they say, which king this
 Which must be made a - way, king He - rod
 Thus must my Babe o - bey, the king that
 Whom cai - tiffs none can tray, whom ty - rants


A. A king is born, they say, which king this
 Which must be made a - way, king He - rod
 Thus must my Babe o - bey, the king that
 Whom cai - tiffs none can tray, whom ty - rants

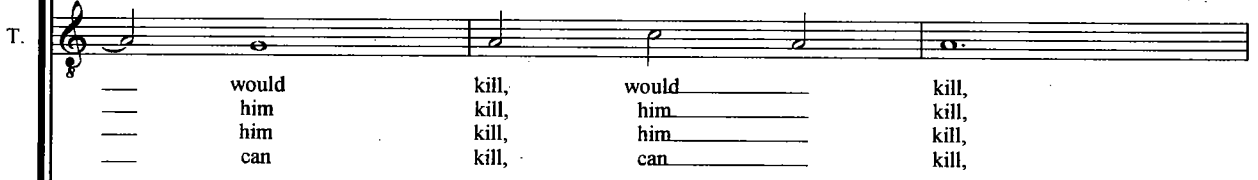
T. A king is born, they say, which king this
 Which must be made a - way, king He - rod would
 Thus must my Babe o - bey, the king that would
 Whom cai - tiffs none can tray, whom ty - rants none

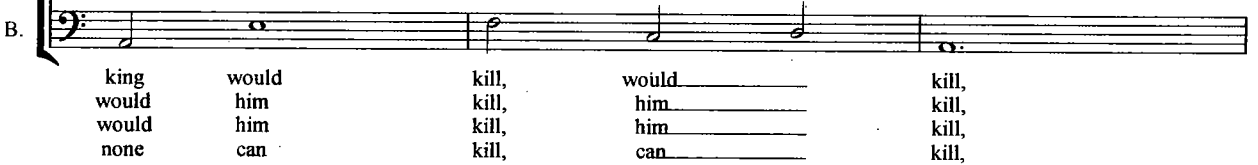
B. A king is born, they say, which king this
 Which must be made a - way, king He - rod
 Thus must my Babe o - bey, the king that
 Whom cai - tiffs none can tray, whom ty - rants

S. 

A. 

A. 

T. 

B. 

70

S. 

A. 

A. 

T. 

B. 

S. and woe - ful, and woe - ful hea - vy day, hea -
and joy - ful, and joy - ful hap - py day, hap -

A. woe, and woe - ful hea - vy day,
joy, and joy - ful hap - py day,

A. — woe - ful hea - vy day, when wret -
— joy - ful hap - py day, when wret -

T. — and woe - ful hea - vy day, when wret -
— and joy - ful hap - py day, when wret -

B. Oh woe, and woe - ful hea - vy day, hea -
Oh joy, and joy - ful hap - py day, hap -

80

S. -vy day, when wret - ches have
-py day, when wret - ches want

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

A. - ches have their will, have their will, have their will,
ches want their will, want their will, want their will,

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

B. - vy day, when wret - ches have their will, have their will,
- py day, when wret - ches want their will, want their will,

S.
their will, when wretches have their will. will. will.
their will, when wretches want their will. will. will.

A.
- ches have their will, have their will. will.
- ches want their will, want their will. will.

A.
when wretches have their will. Oh will.
when wretches want their will. Oh will.

T.
their will, when wretches have their will. will. will.
their will, when wretches want their will. will. will.

B.
their will, when wretches have their will. will. will.
their will, when wretches want their will. will. will.

Lulla la lulla lulla lullaby,
My sweet little Babie, what meanest thou to cry.

2. Three kings this King of kings to see, are come from farre,
To each unknowen, with offerings great, by guiding of a Starre:
And shepherds heard the song, which Angells bright did sing,
Giving all glory unto God, for comming of this King,
Which must bee made away, king *Herod* would him kill.
Oh woe and woefull heavie day, when wretches have their will.
Lulla, la lulla, lulla lullaby, my sweet, &c.
3. Loe, my little Babe, bee still, lament no more,
From furie shalt thou step aside, help have we still in store:
Wee heavenly warning have, some other soyle to seeke,
From death must flie the Lord of life, as Lamb both myld & meeke:
Thus must my Babe obey the king that would him kill.
Oh woe, and woefull heavie day, when wretches have their will.
Lulla, la lulla, lulla lullaby, my sweet &c.
4. But thou shalt live and raigne, as *Sibilles* have foresayd,
As all the Prophets prophesie, whose mother yet a maide,
And perfect Virgin pure, with her brestes shall upbreede,
Both God and man that all hath made, the Sonne of heavenly seede:
Whome caytives none can traye, whome tyrants none can kill,
Oh joy, and joyfull happie day, when wretches want their will.

FINIS

Editorial notes

Bracketed accidentals, and all directions in square brackets, are editorial.

Italicised underlay is represented by the 'ij' repeat sign in the original print.

Spelling of underlaid text has been modernised, and punctuation and capitalisation regularised between the parts.

A proportional relationship between the time-signatures in the two sections has been assumed, although there is no way of telling whether Byrd intended this.

The repeated music from bar 70 is printed *in extenso* in the original publication, but there are no significant differences beyond, unsurprisingly, those of spelling and punctuation in the repeated section.

The underlay of verses 2, 3 and 4 is editorial, the first verse only being underlaid in the original publication.