



# A Mother's cradle song

John Cheshire  
(1837-1910)

Andante sostenuto

S  
Gen - tly, gen - tly fall sweet sleep O'er thine

A  
Gen - tly, gen - tly fall sweet sleep O'er thine

T  
Gen - tly, gen - tly

B  
Gen - tly, gen - tly

## A Mother's cradle song

3

S eye - lids soft and deep; Gen - tly, as the breath of

A eye - lids soft and deep; Gen - tly, as the breath of

T fall sweet sleep, gen - - -

B fall sweet sleep, gen - - -

6

S flow'rs In the bright noon's hon - ey'd hours;

A flow'rs In the bright noon's hon - ey'd hours;

T - - tly fall sweet sleep;

B - - tly fall sweet sleep;

9

S Gen - tly, as the dew's of heav'n On the wild rose at the

A Gen - tly, as the dew's of heav'n On the wild rose at the

T Gen - tly, as the dew's of heav'n On the wild rose at the

B Gen - tly, as the dew's of heav'n, gen - tly fall sweet

# A Mother's cradle song

12

S ev'n, Gen - tly, as the dew's of heav'n On the

A ev'n, Gen - tly, as the dew's of heav'n On the

T ev'n, Gen - tly, as the dew's of heav'n On the

B sleep, Gen - tly, as the dew's of heav'n On the

15

S wild rose at the ev'n. Thou art pure, my dar - ling

A wild rose at the ev'n. Thou art pure, my dar - ling

T wild rose at the ev'n. Gen - - - -

B wild rose at the ev'n.

18

S boy! Love - ly, bright, and full of joy,

A boy! Love - ly, bright, and full of joy,

T - - tly fall sweet sleep, gen - tly fall sweet

B Gen - tly fall sweet sleep, gen - tly fall sweet

## A Mother's cradle song

21

S Slum - b'ring with - - out dream of

A Slum - b'ring with - - out dream of

T *pp* sleep, gen - tly fall sweet sleep, sweet

B *pp* sleep, gen - tly fall sweet sleep, sweet

24

S care, Gen - tly fall sweet

A care,

T sleep, sweet sleep,

B sleep O'er thine eye - lids soft and

27

S sleep O'er thine eye - lids soft and deep, O'er thine

A Of life's sor - rows un - a - ware, Of life's

T Of life's sor - rows un - a - ware, Of life's

B deep O'er thine eye - lids soft and deep, O'er thine

# A Mother's cradle song

30

S eye - lids soft and deep, Gen - tly fall sweet

A sor - rows un - a - ware, Of life's sor - rows un - a -

T sor - rows un - a - ware, Of life's sor - rows un - a -

B eye - lids soft and deep; Gen - tly fall sweet

*pp*

33

S sleep; God thee aid, his grace to win, Thro' the

A ware; God thee aid, his grace to win, Thro' the

T ware; Gen - tly, gen - tly

B sleep, Gen - tly, gen - tly

*p*

*pp*

36

S cold world's maze of sin, In each sad and joy - ous

A cold world's maze of sin, In each sad and joy - ous

T fall sweet sleep, gen - tly

B fall sweet sleep, gen - tly

## A Mother's cradle song

39 *molto cresc.*

S hour, In thy weak - ness, as thy pow'r, In thy

A hour, In thy weak - ness, as thy pow'r, In thy

T fall sweet sleep, \_\_\_\_\_ sweet

B \_\_\_\_\_ gen - tly fall, gen - tly fall \_\_\_\_\_ sweet

42 *ff*

S weak - ness, as thy pow'r; \_\_\_\_\_

A weak - ness, as thy pow'r; \_\_\_\_\_

T sleep, \_\_\_\_\_ sweet sleep, \_\_\_\_\_

B sleep, \_\_\_\_\_ sweet sleep, \_\_\_\_\_

47 *p cresc.*

S Still my boy, my pray'r shall be, \_\_\_\_\_ Oh! that God may strength - en

A \_\_\_\_\_ Oh! that God \_\_\_\_\_ may strength - en

T *mf cresc.* my pray'r shall be, \_\_\_\_\_ Oh! that God may strength - en

B \_\_\_\_\_ Oh! that God \_\_\_\_\_ may strength - en

# A Mother's cradle song

50 *con energia*

S thee, Still my boy, my pray'r, my

A thee, Still my boy, my pray'r shall be, my

T thee, Still my boy, my pray'r, my pray'r, my

B thee, my pray'r shall be, my

54

S pray'r shall be, Oh! that God, Oh! that

A pray'r shall be, Oh! that God, Oh! that

T pray'r shall be, Oh! that God, Oh! that

B pray'r shall be, Oh! that God, Oh! that

57 *sost.*

S God may strength - - en thee.

A God may strength - - en thee.

T God may strength - - en thee.

B God may strength - - en thee.

**John Cheshire** (1837-1910) was born in Birmingham, Warwickshire, England, and began playing the harp at age four. He studied at the Royal Academy of Music and later under Sir George A. Macfarren and J.B. Chatterton. He was harpist with the Royal Italian Opera and with Her Majesty's Theatre. He performed throughout the United Kingdom and toured South America, Norway, and Sweden. He relocated to New York City and became harpist with the National Opera Company. He died in New York. His compositions include two operas, three overtures for orchestra, pieces for harp, pieces for piano, and assorted small pieces.

#### A MOTHER'S CRADLE SONG

Gently, gently fall sweet sleep  
O'er thine eyelids soft and deep;  
Gently, as the breath of flowers  
In the bright noon's honeyed hours;  
Gently, as the dews of heaven  
On the wild rose at the even.

Thou art pure, my darling boy!  
Lovely, bright, and full of joy,  
Slumbering without dream of care,  
Of life's sorrows unaware,  
*Like the flowers in spring that come  
Gaily bursting into bloom.*

God thee aid, his grace to win,  
Through the cold world's maze of sin,  
In each sad and joyous hour,  
In thy weakness, as thy power;  
Still my boy, my prayer shall be,  
Oh! that God may strengthen thee.

Anon.

*\* Italic indicates lines of poem omitted in the musical setting.*

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