A Cradle Song

John Pointer
(1888–1934)

John Pointer (1868–1934) was born in ham, Chester, England. He was active as a pianist, conductor, and composer, and was a long-time editor for Novello and Company, music publishers in London. His most significant work was with editions of Bach cantatas, works by Purcell, and works by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor. He worked with John E. West, chief editor at Novello, to bring out Elgar's principal works. He was skilled as an orchestrator, particularly in connection with light opera. As composer, he mainly wrote songs and part-songs.

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.

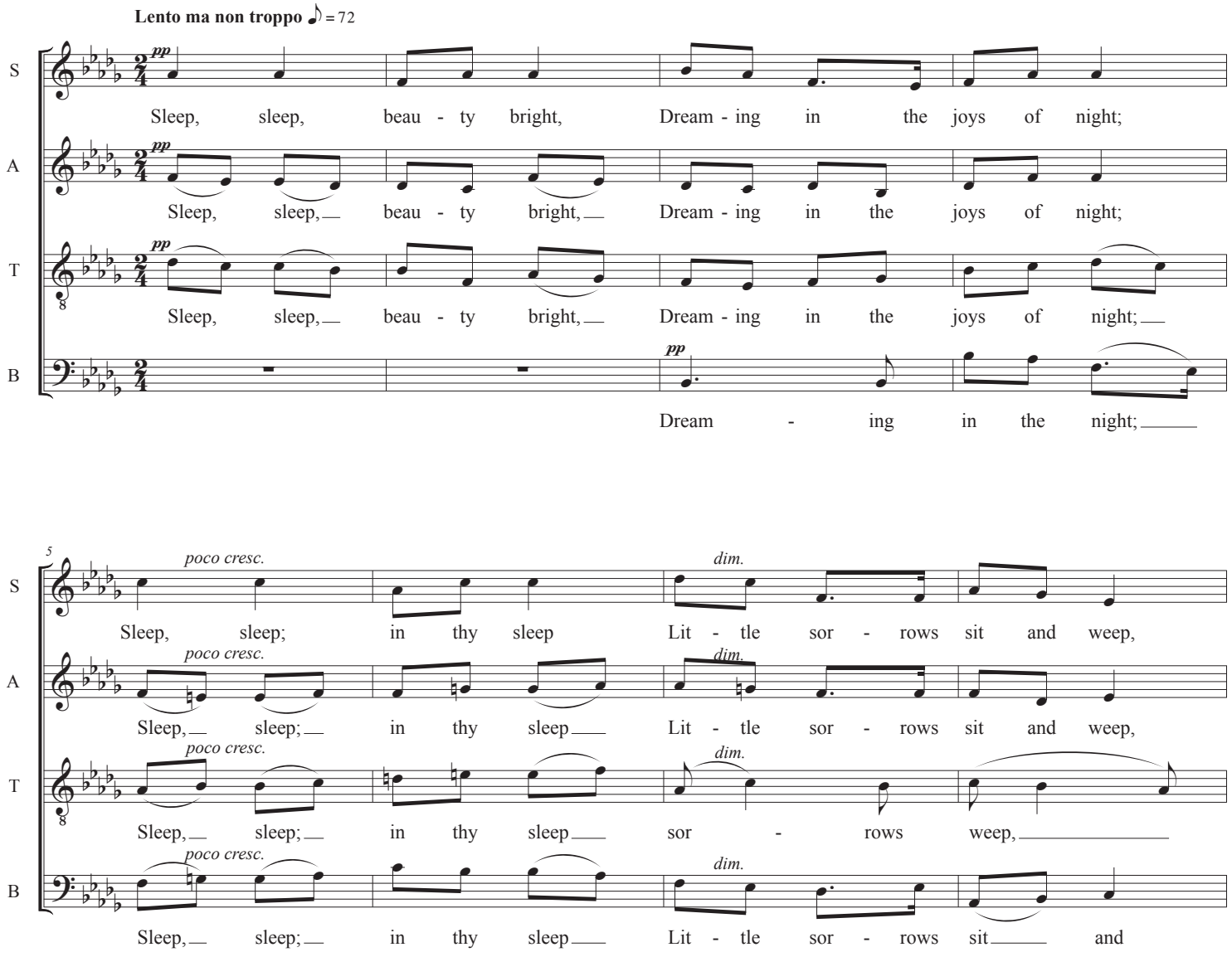
As thy softest limbs I feel
Smiles as of the morning steal
O'er thy cheek, and o'er thy breast
Where thy little heart doth rest.

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 Pointer



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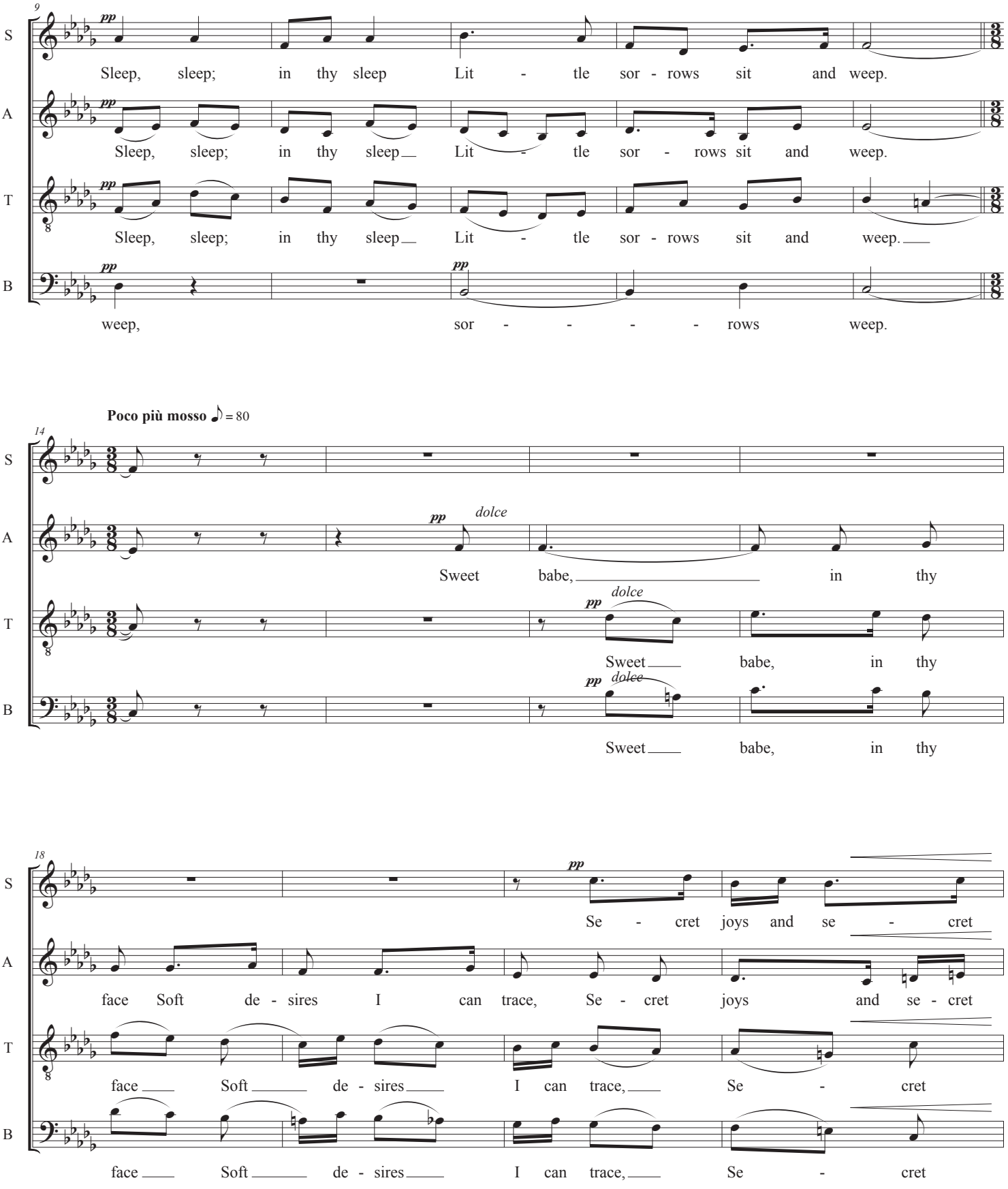
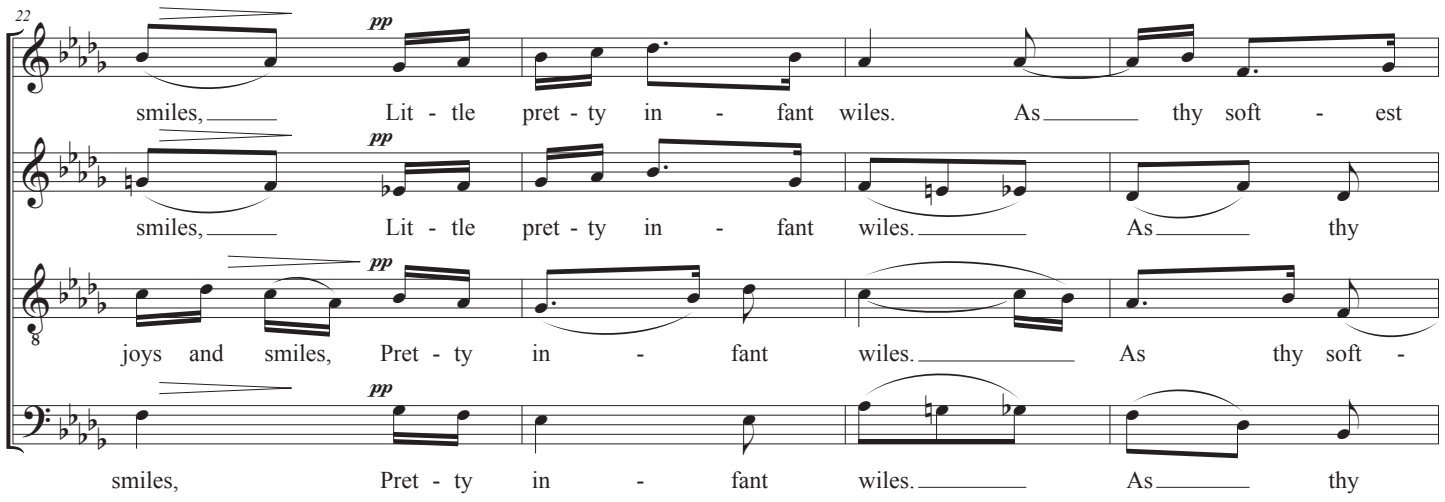
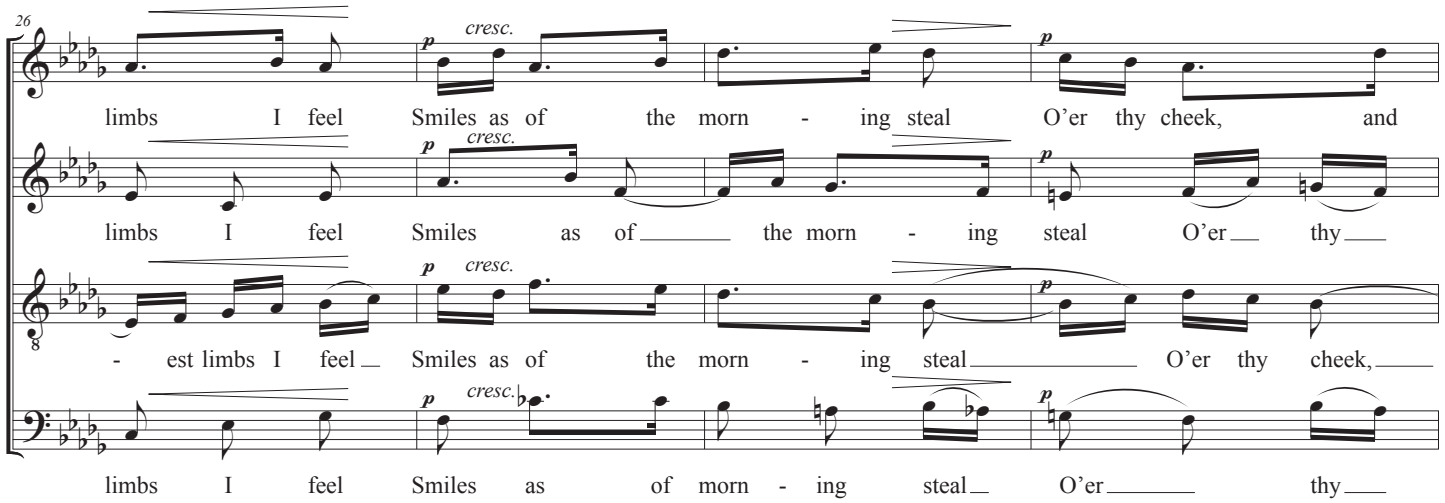
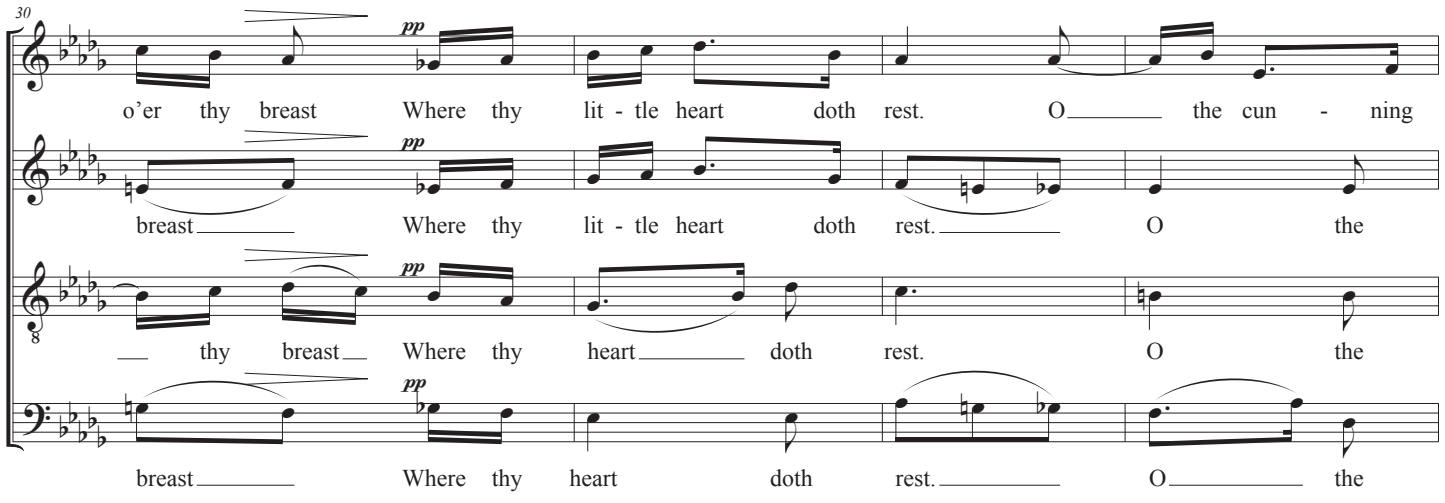
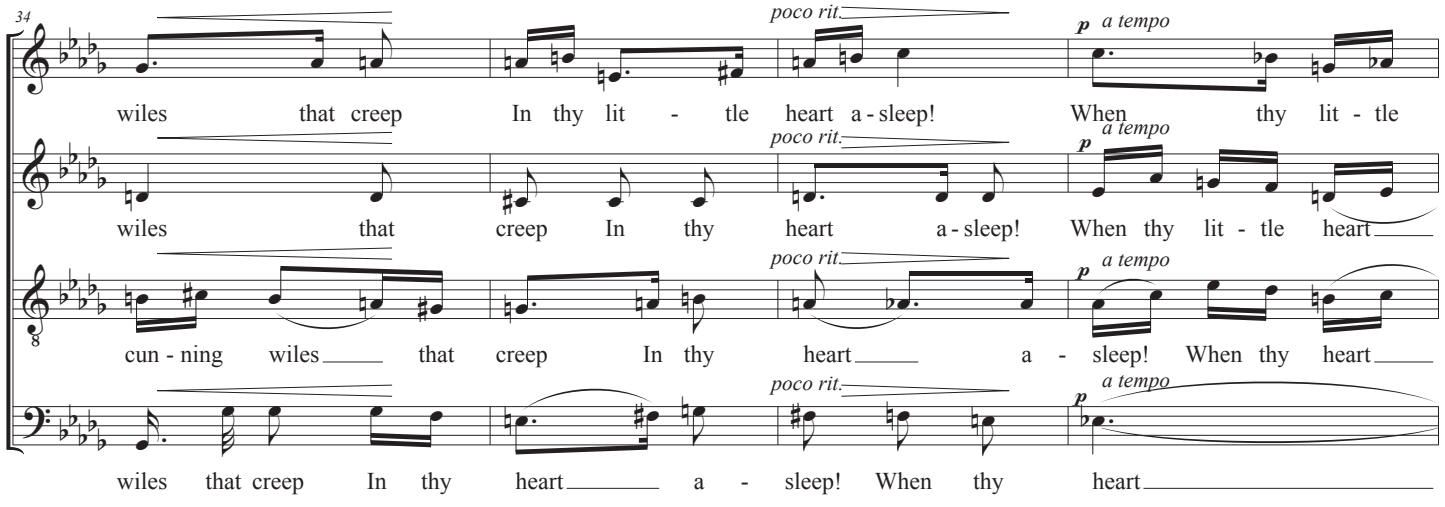
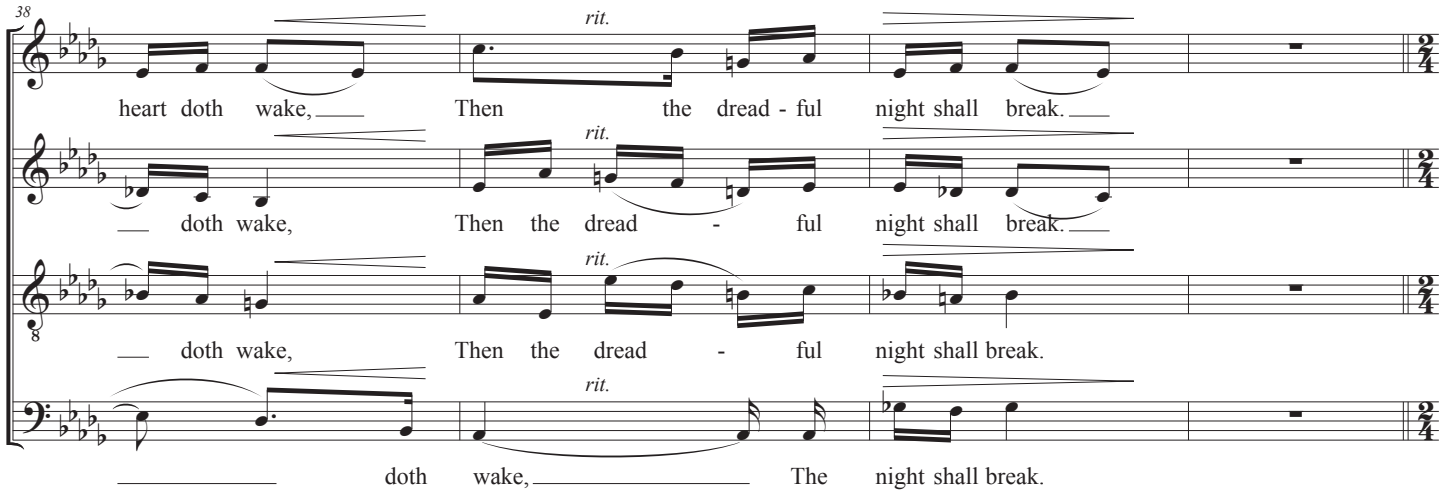


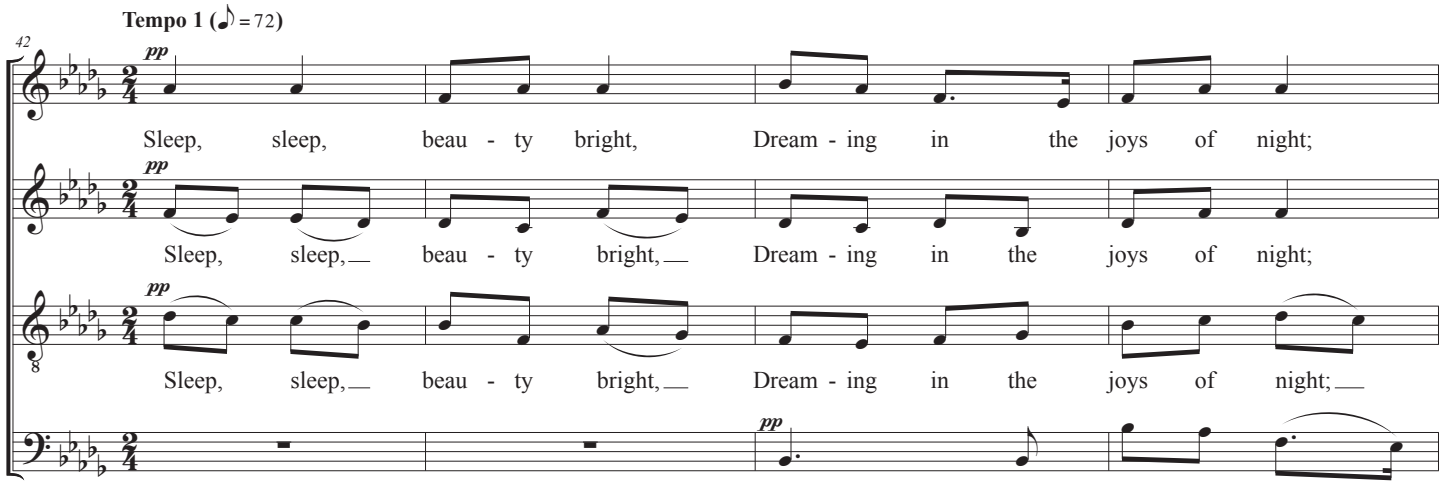

22
S
A
T
B
pp
smiles, Lit - tle pret - ty in - fant wiles. As thy soft - est
smiles, Lit - tle pret - ty in - fant wiles. As thy
joys and smiles, Pret - ty in - fant wiles. As thy soft -
smiles, Pret - ty in - fant wiles. As thy

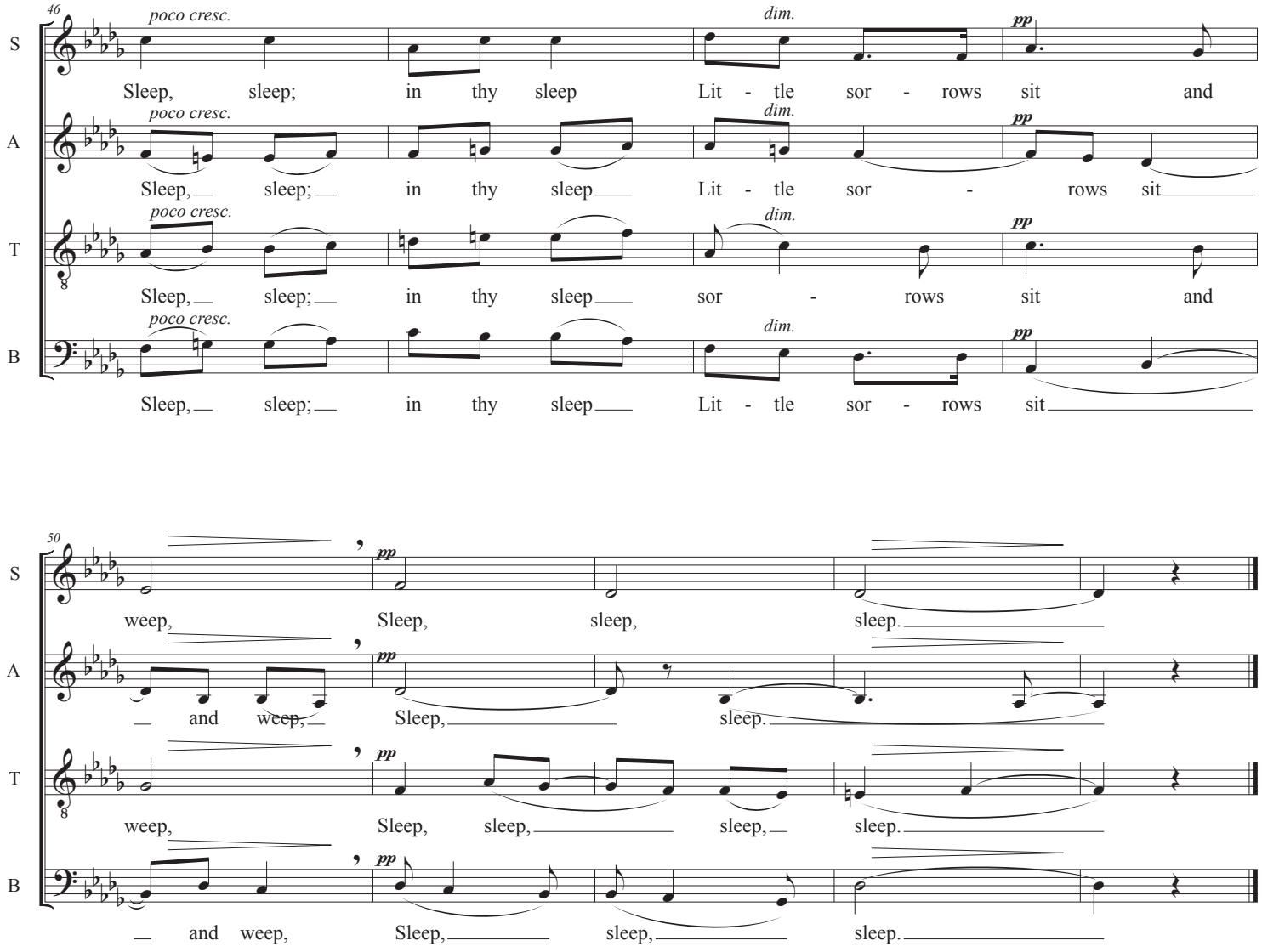

26
S
A
T
B
p
cresc.
limbs I feel Smiles as of the morn - ing steal O'er thy cheek, and
limbs I feel Smiles as of the morn - ing steal O'er thy
- est limbs I feel Smiles as of the morn - ing steal O'er thy cheek,
limbs I feel Smiles as of morn - ing steal O'er thy


30
S
A
T
B
pp
o'er thy breast Where thy lit - tle heart doth rest. O the cun - ning
breast Where thy lit - tle heart doth rest. O the
thy breast Where thy heart doth rest. O the
breast Where thy heart doth rest. O the


34
S
A
T
B
poco rit.
a tempo
p
wiles that creep In thy lit - tle heart a - sleep! When thy lit - tle
wiles that creep In thy heart a - sleep! When thy lit - tle heart
cun - ning wiles that creep In thy heart a - sleep! When thy heart
wiles that creep In thy heart a - sleep! When thy heart


38
S
A
T
B
rit.
heart doth wake, Then the dread - ful night shall break.
doth wake, Then the dread - ful night shall break.
doth wake, Then the dread - ful night shall break.
doth wake, The night shall break.


Tempo 1 (♪ = 72)
42
S
A
T
B
pp
Sleep, sleep, beau - ty bright, Dream - ing in the joys of night;
Sleep, sleep, beau - ty bright, Dream - ing in the joys of night;
Sleep, sleep, beau - ty bright, Dream - ing in the joys of night;
Dream - ing in the night;



Stainer & Bell
(1913)

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