

In the Bleak Mid-Winter

Christina Georgina Rossetti

Gustav Theodor Holst (1906)
arr. Larry Nickel

$\text{♩} = 82$

espressivo

pedal freely throughout

Detailed description: This block contains the piano introduction. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of three flats (B-flat major/D-flat minor) and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 82. The music is marked 'espressivo'. The bass line has a 'pedal freely throughout' instruction. The right hand plays a melodic line with some grace notes.

A a tempo - dolce

5 *mf*

T. In the bleak mid - win - ter, y wind made moan.

B. In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan.

Detailed description: This block contains the first vocal entry and piano accompaniment. It starts at measure 5. The vocal parts (Tenor and Bass) are marked 'mf'. The piano accompaniment continues from the previous block. The lyrics are: 'In the bleak mid - win - ter, y wind made moan.' for Tenor and 'In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan.' for Bass.

9 *mp*

T. Earth stood i - ron, wa - ter like a stone.

B. Ear' ard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone.

Detailed description: This block contains the second vocal entry and piano accompaniment. It starts at measure 9. The vocal parts (Tenor and Bass) are marked 'mp'. The piano accompaniment continues. The lyrics are: 'Earth stood i - ron, wa - ter like a stone.' for Tenor and 'Ear' ard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone.' for Bass.

PERUSAL SCORE ONLY - PLEASE DO NOT COPY

13 *mf* *rit.* *mp*

T. Snow had fal - len snow on snow, snow on snow.

B. Snow had fal - len snow on snow, snow on snow.

mf *mp* *rit.* *Calli*

Ped.

17 *mp* *a tempo*

T. In the bleak mid - ter, long, long a - go.

B. In the mid - win - ter, long, long a - go.

mp *mp*

PERUSAL SCORE ONLY - PLEASE DO NOT COPY

21 **B**
Solo *mf*
Our God, heav'n can-not hold Him;
T. *sostenuto - floating sound mp*
Oh...
B. *mp*
Oh...
mf **B**

25
Solo
nor the earth sus Heav'n and earth shall flee a-way,
T. (Oh...)
B.
B

PERUSAL SCORE ONLY - PLEASE DO NOT COPY

C

29

Solo

when He comes to reign.

T. (Oh...) In the ble .n - ter a

B. (Oh...) In .k mid - win - ter a

mf

mf

cappella

33

Solo

The Lord God Al - might - y,

T. sta - bl suf - ficed. The Lord God Al - might - y,

B. .e place suf - ficed. The Lord God Al - might - ty,

37 *lyrically f*

Solo Je - sus Christ. E -

T. *f* Je - sus God, Al - might - y, - sus

B. *f* Je - sus God, Al - might Je - sus

41 **D**

Solo nough for Him, .er - u-bim wor - ship night and day.

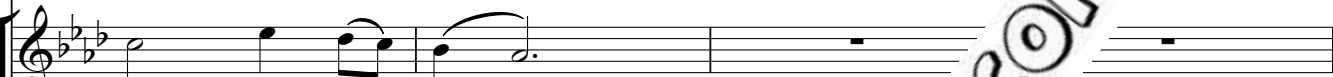
T. *sotto voce* Christ. a

B. *mf*


45

Solo 

and a man - ger full of hay.

T. 


breast full of milk

B. 

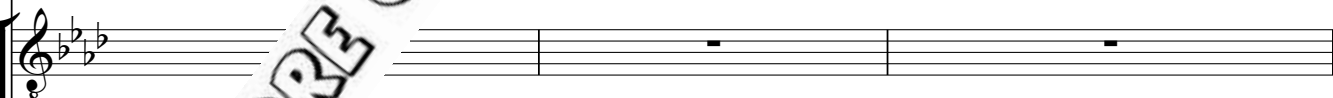
breast full of milk

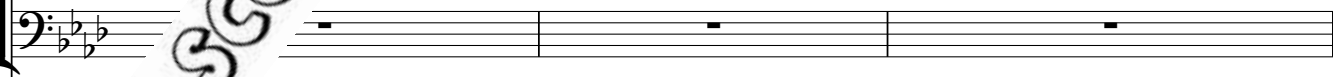


49

Solo 

nough for Him whom An - gels

T. 

B. 



PERUSAL SCORE ONLY - PLEASE DO NOT COPY

52

Solo

fall down be-fore. Ox and ass and ca - and

T.

fall down be - fore and

B.

fall down be - fore and

56

Solo

all the sheep .. What can I

T.

all a - dore. What can I give Him

B.

the sheep a - dore. What, what can I

E

60

Solo
give Him poor that I am. I were a

T.
8
Poor as I am. If I were nep - herd

B.
give Him, poor as I am I were a shep-herd

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 60 to 63. It features four staves: a Solo line, a Tenor (T.) line, a Bass (B.) line, and a piano accompaniment. The Solo line has lyrics: "give Him poor that I am. I were a". The Tenor line has lyrics: "Poor as I am. If I were nep - herd". The Bass line has lyrics: "give Him, poor as I am I were a shep-herd". The piano accompaniment consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) with chords and melodic lines.

64

Solo
shep - herd, would bring a lamb.

T.
8
I woul' a lamb. *mp* If I were a wise man

B.
bring a lamb. *mp* If I were a wise man

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 64 to 67. It features four staves: a Solo line, a Tenor (T.) line, a Bass (B.) line, and a piano accompaniment. The Solo line has lyrics: "shep - herd, would bring a lamb.". The Tenor line has lyrics: "I woul' a lamb. *mp* If I were a wise man". The Bass line has lyrics: "bring a lamb. *mp* If I were a wise man". The piano accompaniment consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) with chords and melodic lines.

68 *plaintively* **rit.** //

Solo I would do my part. But tell me, what can I give Him? //

T. I would do my part. what can give Him? //

B. I would do my part. what I give Him? //

rit. //

72 *f*

Solo I give Him my heart. //

T. *f* give my heart. //

B. *f* Him my heart. //

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76 rit.

Solo

T. give Him (my) heart (my - heart)

B. give Him my

rit.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL.



i.
In the bleak mid-
Frosty wind w
Earth stood hi
Water like
Snow had f
Snow c
In the
Lor

cannot hold Him
ain,
arth shall flee away
comes to reign:
mid winter
e-place sufficed
d God Almighty—
s Christ.

iii.
Enough for Him whom Cherubim
Worship night and day,
A breastful of milk
And a mangerful of hay;

Enough for Him whom Angels
Fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel
Which adore.

iv.
Angels and Archangels
May have gathered there,
Cherubim and Seraphim
Thronged the air;
But only His Mother
In her maiden bliss
Worshipped the Beloved
With a kiss.

v.
What can I give Him,
Poor as I am?—
If I were a Shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man
I would do my part,—
Yet what I can I give Him,—
Give my heart.

"In the Bleak Midwinter" is a Christmas carol based on a poem by the English poet Christina Rossetti. The poem was published, under the title "A Christmas Carol", in the January 1872 issue of Scribner's Monthly - pictured here. The poem first appeared set to music in The English Hymnal in 1906 with a setting by Gustav Holst.

In verse one, Rossetti describes the physical circumstances of the Incarnation in Bethlehem. In verse two, Rossetti contrasts Christ's first and second coming. The third verse dwells on Christ's birth and describes the simple surroundings, in a humble stable and watched by beasts of burden. Rossetti achieves another contrast in the fourth verse, this time between the incorporeal angels attendant at Christ's birth with Mary's ability to render Jesus physical affection. The final verse shifts the description to a more introspective thought process.

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