

for the Choir of Hereford Cathedral

The Coventry Carol

Arrangement for treble solo and SATBB choir

by

Andrew Downes

Preview File Only

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The Coventry Carol

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ANDREW DOWNES

TREBLE SOLO *mp*

lul-ly, lul-la, thou lit-tle tiny child, By by, lul-ly, lul-

lay, thou lit-tle tiny child, By by, lul-ly, lul-lay.

FULL *Tenderly mp*

SOP O sis-ters too, How may we do For to pre-servethis day This

ALT O sis-ters too, How may we do For to pre servethis day This

TEN poor youngling, For whom we do sing, By by, lul-ly lul-lay?

poor youngling, For whom we do sing, By by, lul-ly lul-lay?

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FULL With Aggression.
ff

TEN He-rod the king, In his ra-ging, Charged he hath this day this

BASS 1 He-rod the king, In his ra-ging, Charged he hath this day His

BASS 2

men of might, In his own sight, All young chil-dren to slay.

men of might, In his own sight, All young chil-dren to slay.

Tenderly
mp

FULL

SOP That wae is me, Poor child for thee! And e-ver more and day, For

ALT That wae is me, Poor child for thee! And e-ver more and day, For

TEN

thy parting neither say nor sing By by, lul-ly lul-lay

thy parting neither say nor sing By by, lul-ly lul-lay

P

TREBLE SOLO

lul-ly, lul-la, thou lit-tle tiny Child, By by, lul-ly, lul-lay, thou

lit-tle tiny Child, By by, lul-ly lul-lay.

ANDREW DOWNES: THE COVENTRY CAROL (1979) Opus 18(ii)

Duration 4'

This arrangement for treble solo and SATBB Choir was commissioned by Roy Massey and the Choir of Hereford Cathedral. It was first performed there in December 1979. It was subsequently recorded by the Clent Hills Singers, conducted by the composer, for the cassette, "Christmas in the Forest" (© 1989 Forest Music).

"The melody is taken from the rough facsimile of a 1591 manuscript, published by Thomas Sharp in his "Dissertation on the Pageants at Coventry" (1825), which is the only surviving source of the carol. It is likely, however, that the carol was in existence much earlier than this, and was performed as part of the Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors during the 15th century. I have chosen, therefore, to harmonise the carol in a style which more befits this earlier period than does the 1591 version." - Andrew Downes

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