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A Cradle Song

Ethel Watson Usher

Composer

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A CRADLE SONG
ETHEL WATSON USHER

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A Cradle Song-

Music by Ethel Watson Usher.

The piano introduction consists of three measures. The first measure features a treble clef, a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody in the right hand is a simple, rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The left hand plays a sustained bass note (B-flat) with a fermata over it.

The first verse of the song. The vocal line begins with the lyrics "Sleep lit-tle ba-by of mine — Night and the dark-ness are near." The melody is written in a treble clef with a key signature of three flats and a 6/8 time signature. The piano accompaniment is in the same key and time signature, featuring a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

The second verse of the song. The vocal line begins with the lyrics "Je - sus looks down on the shad-ows that frown and ba-by has noth-ing to fear —". The melody continues in the treble clef with a key signature of three flats and a 6/8 time signature. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with a consistent eighth-note pattern.

The final verse of the song. The vocal line begins with the lyrics "Shut lit-tle ba-by blue eyes, Dear lit-tle head be at rest -". The melody concludes in the treble clef with a key signature of three flats and a 6/8 time signature. The piano accompaniment ends with a final chord in the right hand and a sustained bass note in the left hand.

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