

Wither's Rocking Hymn

English Horn in F

George Wither (1641) / R. Vaughan Williams

1. Sweet ba - by, sleep! What ails my dear? What ails my
 2. Whilst thus thy lul - - la - - by I sing, For thee great

dar - ling thus to cry? Be still, my child, and lend thine
 bless - ings ripe - ning be; Thine el - dest bro - ther is a

ear To hear___ me sing___ thy lul - - la - - by.
 King. And hath___ a king - - dom bought_ for thee.

My pret - ty lamb, for bear _____ to weep;
Sweet ba - by, then, for - - bear _____ to weep;

Sweet _____ ba - - - - - by,

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment line with chords and a bass line. The bottom staff is a bass line with notes and rests. The lyrics are: "My pret - ty lamb, for bear _____ to weep; Sweet ba - by, then, for - - bear _____ to weep;". The piano accompaniment features a simple harmonic structure with a bass line that includes a fermata over the final note.

Be still, my dear; sweet ba - - - by, sleep.
sleep! _____ Sleep ba - - - by, sleep.

The second system of the musical score also consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment line with chords and a bass line. The bottom staff is a bass line with notes and rests. The lyrics are: "Be still, my dear; sweet ba - - - by, sleep. sleep! _____ Sleep ba - - - by, sleep.". The piano accompaniment continues with a simple harmonic structure, ending with a fermata over the final note.

Setting by Vaughan Williams for The Oxford Book of Carols, p.394
The New Oxford Book of Carols, P.406