



Rock me to sleep

Francesco Berger
(1834-1933)

Andantino con Moto

S *mp* Back - ward, turn back - ward, O Time, in your flight, Make me a

A *mp* Back - ward, turn back - ward, O Time, in your flight, Make me a

T *mp* Back - ward, turn back - ward, O Time, in your flight, Make me a

B *mp* Back - ward, turn back - ward, O Time, in your flight, Make me a

The musical score is written for four voices: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and common time (C). The tempo is marked 'Andantino con Moto' and the dynamic is 'mp' (mezzo-piano). The lyrics are: 'Back - ward, turn back - ward, O Time, in your flight, Make me a'. The music features a simple, rhythmic melody with a mix of quarter and half notes, and rests. The Soprano part has a fermata over the final note 'a'. The Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts have a similar melody but with different rhythmic values and rests.

Rock me to sleep

6

S child a - gain just for to - night! Moth - er, come back from the

A child a - gain just for to - night! Moth - er, come back from the

T child a - gain just for to - night! Moth - er, come back from the

B child a - gain just for to - night! Moth - er, come back from the

11

S ech - o - less shore, Take me a - gain to your heart as of

A ech - o - less shore, Take me a - gain to your heart as of

T ech - o - less shore, Take me a - gain to your heart as of

B ech - o - less shore, Take me a - gain to your heart as of

cresc. *dim.* *cresc.* *dim.* *cresc.* *dim.* *cresc.* *dim.*

16

S yore; Kiss from my fore - head the fur - rows of care,

A yore; Kiss from my fore - head the fur - rows of care,

T yore; Kiss from my fore - head the fur - rows of care,

B yore; Kiss from my fore - head the fur - rows of care,

p *dolce* *p* *dolce* *p* *dolce* *p* *dolce*

Rock me to sleep

21 *cresc.*
S Smooth the sil - ver threads out of my hair;
A *cresc.* Smooth the sil - ver threads out of my hair; *f* O - ver my
T *cresc.* Smooth the sil - ver threads out of my hair;
B *cresc.* Smooth the sil - ver threads out of my hair; *f* O - ver my

26
S Rock me to sleep, Moth - er,-
A slum - bers your lov - ing watch keep;- *p* Rock me, *cresc.*
T *p* Rock me to sleep, rock me to
B slum - bers your lov - ing watch keep;- *p* Rock me to sleep, Moth - er,-

31 *cresc.* *mf* *dim.*
S rock me to sleep, Moth - er,- rock me to sleep, Moth - er,- rock me to
A *cresc.* rock me, Moth - er,- *mf* rock me to sleep, Moth - er,- *dim.* rock me to
T sleep, *mf* rock me to sleep, Moth - er,- *dim.* rock me to
B *cresc.* rock me to sleep, Moth - er,- *mf* rock me to sleep, Moth - er,- *dim.* rock me to

Rock me to sleep

36

S sleep! Moth - er, come back to me, Moth - er, come back to me,

A sleep! Moth - er, dear Moth - er, come back to me,

T sleep! Moth - er, dear Moth - er, come back to me,

B sleep! Moth - er, dear Moth - er, come back to me,

mf *cresc.* *f*

41

S Rock me to sleep, Rock me to sleep!

A Rock me to sleep, Rock me to sleep!

T Rock me to sleep, Rock me to sleep!

B Rock me to sleep, Rock me to sleep!

pp *rall.* *dim.* *pp*

46

S Moth - er, dear Moth - er, the years have been long Since I was

A Moth - er, dear Moth - er, the years have been long Since I was

T Moth - er, dear Moth - er, the years have been long Since I was

B Moth - er, dear Moth - er, the years have been long Since I was

mp

Rock me to sleep

51

S hush'd by your lul - la - by song: Yet with deep fond - ness and

A hush'd by your lul - la - by song: Yet with deep fond - ness and

T hush'd by your lul - la - by song: Yet with deep fond - ness and

B hush'd by your lul - la - by song: Yet with deep fond - ness and

56

S pas - sion - ate pain, Yearn I to - night for your pres - ence a - *cresc.* *dim.*

A pas - sion - ate pain, Yearn I to - night for your pres - ence a - *cresc.* *dim.*

T pas - sion - ate pain, Yearn I to - night for your pres - ence a - *cresc.* *dim.*

B pas - sion - ate pain, Yearn I to - night for your pres - ence a - *cresc.* *dim.*

61

S gain. Tir'd of the hol - low, the base and un - true, *p* *dolce*

A gain. Tir'd of the hol - low, the base and un - true, *p* *dolce*

T gain. Tir'd of the hol - low, the base and un - true, *p* *dolce*

B gain. Tir'd of the hol - low, the base and un - true, *p* *dolce*

Rock me to sleep

66 *cresc.*

S Moth - er, dear Moth - er, my heart pines for you; —

A *cresc.* Moth - er, dear Moth - er, my heart pines for you; — *f* Nev - er here -

T *cresc.* Moth - er, dear Moth - er, my heart pines for you; —

B *cresc.* Moth - er, dear Moth - er, my heart pines for you; — *f* Nev - er here -

71

S ————— *p* Rock me to sleep, Moth - er,-

A *dim.* af - ter to wake, or to weep, *p* Rock me, *cresc.*

T *p* Rock me to sleep, ————— rock me to

B *dim.* af - ter to wake, or to weep, *p* Rock me to sleep, Moth - er,-

76 *cresc.* *mf* *dim.*

S rock me to sleep, Moth - er,- rock me to sleep, Moth - er,- rock me to

A *cresc.* rock me, Moth - er,- *mf* rock me to sleep, Moth - er,- *dim.* rock me to

T *mf* sleep, ————— *dim.* rock me to sleep, Moth - er,- rock me to

B *cresc.* rock me to sleep, Moth - er,- *mf* rock me to sleep, Moth - er,- *dim.* rock me to

Rock me to sleep

81

S sleep! Moth - er, come back to me, Moth - er, come back to me,

A sleep! Moth - er, dear Moth - er, come back to me,

T sleep! Moth - er, dear Moth - er, come back to me,

B sleep! Moth - er, dear Moth - er, come back to me,

86

S Rock me to sleep, Rock me to sleep!

A Rock me to sleep, Rock me to sleep!

T Rock me to sleep, Rock me to sleep!

B Rock me to sleep, Rock me to sleep!

Lamborn Cock & Co.
(1871)

Francesco Berger (1834-1933) was born in London to Italian immigrants. His father, born in Trieste, was a naturalized Briton. At 14, Berger travelled to his father's hometown and his first opera was performed there when he was 17. He received much of his musical education in Germany and returned to England. Berger became a professor of music at the Royal Academy of Music and also taught at the Guildhall School. He was a member and director of the Philharmonic Society and he acted as its honorary secretary from 1884 until 1911. In that capacity, he introduced many new works and, on several occasions, brought Tchaikovsky over to conduct his own works. He composed many works including masses, overtures, operas, chamber music, choral works, piano compositions, song cycles and vocal settings.

Backward, turn backward, O Time, in your flight,
Make me a child again just for tonight!
Mother, come back from the echoless shore,
Take me again to your heart as of yore;
Kiss from my forehead the furrows of care,
Smooth the silver threads out of my hair;
Over my slumbers your loving watch keep; -
Rock me to sleep, Mother,- rock me to sleep!

Mother, dear Mother, the years have been long
Since I was hushed by your lullaby song:
Yet with deep fondness and passionate pain,
Yearn I tonight for your presence again.
Tired of the hollow, the bas and untrue,
Mother, dear Mother, my heart pines for you;
Never hereafter to wake, or to weep,
Rock me to sleep, Mother,- rock me to sleep!

Elizabeth Anne (Chase) Akers Allen (1832-1911)

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