



POOR LITTLE TOM-EE!

ALFRED JAMES CALDICOTT
(1841-1897)

Largo Lacrimoso ♩. = 50

S
There was a young cat— Ma - ri - a by name— Poor, poor lit - tle

A
There was a young cat— Ma - ri - a by name— Poor, poor lit - tle

T
There was a young cat— Ma - ri - a by name— Poor, poor lit - tle

B
There was a young cat— Ma - ri - a by name— Poor, poor lit - tle

POOR LITTLE TOM-EE!

5

S Tom - ee! An - oth - er young cat came court - ing that same,

A Tom - ee! An - oth - er young cat came court - ing that same,

T Tom - ee! An - oth - er young cat came court - ing that same,

B Tom - ee! Tom - ee! An - oth - er young cat came court - ing that same,

Detailed description: This system contains the first four staves of music. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) are written in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The Soprano, Alto, and Tenor parts have a melodic line with a fermata over the first note. The Bass part has a more active line, including a second 'Tom - ee!' before the main phrase. The lyrics are: 'Tom - ee! An - oth - er young cat came court - ing that same,'.

8

S Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! The one was Ma - ree, the *cresc.*

A Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! The one was Ma - ree, the *cresc.*

T Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! The one was Ma - ree, the *cresc.*

B Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Tom - ee! The one was Ma - ree, the *cresc.*

Detailed description: This system contains the next four staves of music. The vocal parts continue the melody. The Soprano, Alto, and Tenor parts have a fermata over the first note. The Bass part has a more active line, including a second 'Tom - ee!' before the main phrase. The lyrics are: 'Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! The one was Ma - ree, the'. The word 'cresc.' is written above the final notes of each staff.

11

S oth - er Tom - ee, And the court - in' they did is a strange his - tor - ee. *f*

A oth - er Tom - ee, And the court - in' they did is a strange his - tor - ee. *f*

T oth - er Tom - ee, And the court - in' they did is a strange his - tor - ee. *f*

B oth - er Tom - ee, And the court - in' they did is a strange his - tor - ee. *f*

Detailed description: This system contains the final four staves of music. The vocal parts continue the melody. The Soprano, Alto, and Tenor parts have a fermata over the first note. The Bass part has a more active line, including a second 'Tom - ee!' before the main phrase. The lyrics are: 'oth - er Tom - ee, And the court - in' they did is a strange his - tor - ee.'. The word 'f' (forte) is written above the final notes of each staff.

POOR LITTLE TOM-EE!

14

S Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Ma -

A Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Ma -

T Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Tom - ee! Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Ma -

B Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Tom - ee! Ma -

dim. *mf*

18

S ri - a, she sat on a tel - e - graph pole, Poor, poor lit - tle

A ri - a, she sat on a tel - e - graph pole, Poor, poor lit - tle

T ri - a, she sat on a tel - e - graph, tel - e - graph pole, Poor lit - tle

B ri - a, she sat on a tel - e - graph pole, Poor, poor lit - tle

21

S Tom - ee! _____ Right up on the top she pour'd out her soul;

A Tom - ee! _____ Right up on the top she pour'd out her soul;

T Tom - ee! _____ Right up on the top she pour'd out her soul;

B Tom - ee! Tom - ee! Right up on the top she pour'd out her soul;

f *>*

POOR LITTLE TOM-EE!

23 *dim.* *f*

S Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! And Tom - ee, the he, look'd

A Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! And Tom - ee, the he, look'd

T Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! And Tom - ee, the he, look'd

B Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Tom - ee! And Tom - ee, the he, look'd

Detailed description: This system contains the first four staves of music, numbered 23. It features vocal parts for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The music is in G major and 2/4 time. The lyrics are: 'Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! And Tom - ee, the he, look'd'. The Soprano, Alto, and Tenor parts begin with a *dim.* (diminuendo) marking and end with an *f* (forte) marking. The Bass part also begins with *dim.* and has a *f* marking. The lyrics for the Bass part include an additional 'Tom - ee!' before 'And Tom - ee, the he, look'd'.

26

S o - ver at she, A - long ways a - part on a house chim - i - nee—

A o - ver at she, A - long ways a - part on a house chim - i - nee—

T o - ver at she, A - long ways a - part on a house chim - i - nee—

B o - ver at she, A - long ways a - part on a house chim - i - nee—

Detailed description: This system contains the next four staves of music, numbered 26. The lyrics are: 'o - ver at she, A - long ways a - part on a house chim - i - nee—'. The music continues in G major and 2/4 time. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass) all have the same lyrics. The melody is simple and repetitive, with a final note on a half note.

29 *p*

S Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____

A Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____

T Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____

B Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Tom - ee!

Detailed description: This system contains the final four staves of music, numbered 29. The lyrics are: 'Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____'. The music is in G major and 2/4 time. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass) all have the same lyrics. The Soprano, Alto, and Tenor parts end with a *p* (piano) marking. The Bass part ends with a *p* marking and includes an additional 'Tom - ee!' at the end of the line. The music concludes with a double bar line and a key signature change to E minor.

POOR LITTLE TOM-EE!

33

S *mf* > The leap was great, but the deed must be done, *p* Poor, poor lit - tle

A *mf* > The leap was great, but the deed must be done, *p* Poor, poor lit - tle

T *mf* > The leap was great, but the deed must be done, *p* Poor, poor lit - tle

B *mf* > The leap was great, but the deed must be done, *p* Poor, poor lit - tle

37

S Tom - ee! And the top of the pole would hold on - ly one,

A Tom - ee! And the top of the pole would hold on - ly one,

T Tom - ee! And the top of the pole would hold on - ly one,

B Tom - ee! Tom - ee! And the top of the pole would hold on - ly one,

40

S *cresc.* Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! But as it held she, but

A *cresc.* Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! But as it held she, but

T *cresc.* Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! But as it held she, but

B *cresc.* Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Tom - ee! But as it held she, but

POOR LITTLE TOM-EE!

43

S lit - tle cared he, So he hunch'd him - self up for a big Jam - bo - ree—

A lit - tle cared he, So he hunch'd him - self up for a big Jam - bo - ree—

T lit - tle cared he, So he hunch'd him - self up for a big Jam - bo - ree—

B lit - tle cared he, So he hunch'd him - self up for a big Jam - bo - ree—

46

S Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ He

A Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ He

T Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Tom - ee! Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ He

B Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Tom - ee! He

Allegretto

50

S shot thro' the air like a left - hand - ed flyer, Poor, poor lit - tle

A shot thro' the air like a left - hand - ed flyer, Poor, poor lit - tle

T shot thro' the air like a left - hand - ed, left - hand - ed flyer, Poor lit - tle

B shot thro' the air like a left - hand - ed flyer, Poor, poor lit - tle

POOR LITTLE TOM-EE!

53

S Tom - ee! And near - ly shot thro' his dar - ling Ma - ri - a,

A Tom - ee! And near - ly shot thro' his dar - ling Ma - ri - a,

T Tom - ee! And near - ly shot thro' his dar - ling Ma - ri - a,

B Tom - ee! Tom - ee! And near - ly shot thro' his dar - ling Ma - ri - a,

56

S Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! He saw the fur flee from the

A Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! He saw the fur flee from the

T Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! He saw the fur flee from the

B Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Tom - ee! He saw the fur flee from the

59

S back of the she, But where went the piec - es is a mys - te - ree—

A back of the she, But where went the piec - es is a mys - te - ree—

T back of the she, But where went the piec - es is a mys - te - ree—

B back of the she, But where went the piec - es is a mys - te - ree—

POOR LITTLE TOM-EE!

62 *dim.* *(sob)* *p* *(sniff)*

S Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee!

A Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee!

T Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee!

B Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Tom - ee!

mf *p*

S He sat all a - lone on the tel - e - graph pole, Poor, poor lit - tle

A He sat all a - lone on the tel - e - graph pole, Poor, poor lit - tle

T He sat all a - lone on the tel - e - graph pole, Poor, poor lit - tle

B He sat all a - lone on the tel - e - graph pole, Poor, poor lit - tle

69 *cresc.*

S Tom - ee! He cried for Ma - ri - a, out - pour - ing his soul,

A Tom - ee! He cried for Ma - ri - a, out - pour - ing his soul,

T Tom - ee! He cried for Ma - ri - a, out - pour - ing his soul,

B Tom - ee! Tom - ee! He cried for Ma - ri - a, out - pour - ing his soul,

POOR LITTLE TOM-EE!

72

S Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! He meant it in fun, but the

A Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! He meant it in fun, but the

T Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! He meant it in fun, but the

B Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Tom - ee! He meant it in fun, but the

75

S deed it was done, For the top of the pole will hold on - ly one,

A deed it was done, For the top of the pole will hold on - ly one,

T deed it was done, For the top of the pole will hold on - ly one,

B deed it was done, For the top of the pole will hold on - ly one,

78

S Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! A po -

A Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! A po -

T Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! *ad lib.* Tom - ee! Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! A po -

B Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Tom - ee! A po -

POOR LITTLE TOM-EE!

Tempo 1

82

S lice - man spied him a - lone, in full view, Poor, poor lit - tle

A lice - man spied him a - lone, in full view, Poor, poor lit - tle

T lice - man spied him a - lone, he spied him a - lone, Poor lit - tle

B lice - man spied him a - lone, in full view, Poor, poor lit - tle

85

S Tom - ee! He shot on - ly once, but the bul - let went through,

A Tom - ee! He shot on - ly once, but the bul - let went through,

T Tom - ee! He shot on - ly once, but the bul - let went through,

B Tom - ee! Tom - ee! He shot on - ly once, but the bul - let went through,

88

S *p* Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! *cresc.* The hole you could see thro'

A *p* Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! *cresc.* The hole you could see thro'

T *p* Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! *cresc.* The hole you could see thro'

B *p* Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Tom - ee! *cresc.* The hole you could see thro'

POOR LITTLE TOM-EE!

91

S lit - tle Tom - ee, And this is the end of the Cat - a - stro - phee. *rit.*

A lit - tle Tom - ee, And this is the end of the Cat - a - stro - phee. *rit.*

T lit - tle Tom - ee, And this is the end of the Cat - a - stro - phee. *rit.*

B lit - tle Tom - ee, And this is the end of the Cat - a - stro - phee. *rit.*

94

S Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ *(sob)* *rit.* *(sob)*

A Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ *(sob)* *rit.* *(sob)*

T Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ *(sob)* *rit.* *(sob)*

B Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! _____ Poor, poor lit - tle Tom - ee! Tom - ee! *(sob)* *rit.* *(sob)*

Metzler & Co.
(1886)

Alfred James Caldicott (1842–1897) was born at Worcester, England. At age nine he became a choirboy in the cathedral, eventually becoming the leading treble, then became assistant to the cathedral organist when his voice broke at age fourteen. He spent two years studying at the Leipzig Conservatorium, returning to Worcester and became organist at St. Stephen's as well as teaching and conducting a musical society he established. In 1878 he graduated from Cambridge and experienced his first notable success as a composer. His humorous glee "Humpty Dumpty" was awarded a special prize at a competition by the Manchester Glee Society. In 1879 his serious glee "Winter Days" won the prize offered by the Huddersfield Glee and Madrigal Union. In 1882 Caldicott settled in London and began to compose operettas. He went to the United States in 1890 as conductor to Miss Agnes Huntingdon's light opera company. Returning to England in 1892, he was appointed principal of the London College of Music and became conductor at the Comedy Theatre. Incessant work overtaxed his strength and he died near Gloucester in 1897. His humorous novelty combining a nursery rhyme with clever music in "Humpty Dumpty" was so successful that he composed another in the same year, "Jack and Jill," and later "Little Jack Horner." Other composers imitated him for a time. He set these rhymes in a witty style, with full use of contrast and the opportunities afforded by individual words—for instance, the descent of all voices through the interval of an eleventh at the words "Humpty Dumpty had a great fall."

The leap was great, but the deed must be done,
Poor, poor little Tomee!
And the top of the pole would hold only one,
Poor, poor little Tomee!
But as it held she, but little cared he,
So he hunch'd himself up for a big Jamboree—
Poor, poor little Tomee!

He shot thro' the air like a lefthanded flyer,
Poor, poor little Tomee!
And nearly shot thro' his darling Maria,
Poor, poor little Tomee!
He saw the fur flee from the back of the she,
But where went the pieces is a mystery—
Poor, poor little Tomee!

He sat all alone on the telegraph pole,
Poor, poor little Tomee!
He cried for Maria, outpouring his soul,
Poor, poor little Tomee!
He meant it in fun, but the deed it was done,
For the top of the pole will hold only one,
Poor, poor little Tomee!

A policeman spied him alone, in full view,
Poor, poor little Tomee!
He shot only once, But the bullet went through,
Poor, poor little Tomee!
The hole you couold see thro' little Tomee,
And this is the end of the Catastrophee.
Poor, poor little Tomee!

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