



ANGEL SOWERS

ALFRED JAMES CALDICOTT
(1842–1897)

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."

My spirit was faint, for earth's wise ones said,
 "The world, it has grown so old,
All the blossoms of love and faith are dead,
 The heart of the Earth is cold."

I looked up to heaven, On silver car
 The moon rode the heavens through;
She seemed a sharp sickle, and each bright star
 A sword-point, that pierced the blue.

"Our Father, whom angels in glory hymn,
 Dost Thou in Thy heaven still reign?"
I cried; then looked downward, with eyes grown dim,
 To the flowerless Earth again.

Then me-thought, that dividing the silent night,
 The angels of God came down;
Each one wore a robe, than the snow more white,
 And each one a starry crown.

With music of heaven their clear notes rang,
 As they passed o'er each frozen mead,
"We come from God's garden," they sweetly sang,
 "We scatter the heavenly seed."

"No more call this dear Earth 'The Sorrowful Star,'
 Enshrouded in dark-woven pall,
For lo! in His heaven so bright and far,
 God loveth her best of all!"

With gladness I gazed on each shining face,
 And marked where the angels trod;
Before them, the Earth was a desert place;
 Behind them, The Garden of God.

The stars now seemed angels that watched above;
 All fled was the winter gloom,
For with blossoms of Faith and Hope and Love
 The glad Earth was all, all a-bloom.

Isa Postgate
(Isabella J. Cole Postgate) (1858-1910)

THE ANGEL SOWERS

Alfred J. Caldicott

Andante ♩ = 66

S My spir - it was faint, for Earth's wise ones said, "The world, it has grown so

A My spir - it was faint, for Earth's wise ones said, "The world, it has grown so

T My spir - it was faint, for Earth's wise ones said, "The world, it has grown so

B My spir - it was faint, for Earth's wise ones said, "The world, it has grown so

5
S old, All the blos - soms of love and faith are dead, The

A old, All the blos - soms of love and faith are dead, The

T old, All the blos - soms of love and faith are dead, The

B old, All the blos - soms of love and faith are dead, The

THE ANGEL SOWERS

8

rit. e dim. *accel.*

S heart of the Earth is cold." I look'd up to heav'n, On

rit. e dim. *accel.*

A heart of the Earth is cold, the Earth is cold." I look'd up to heav'n, On

rit. e dim. *accel.*

T heart of the Earth is cold, the Earth is cold." I look'd up to heav'n, On

rit. e dim. *accel.*

B heart of the Earth is cold, the Earth is cold." I look'd up to heav'n, On

11

rit. *mf*

S sil - ver car The moon rode the heav - ens through; She

rit. *mf*

A sil - ver car The moon rode the heav - ens through; She

rit. *mf*

T sil - ver car The moon rode the heav - ens through; She

rit. *mf*

B sil - ver car The moon rode the heav - ens through; She

14

Allegro ♩ = 76 *cresc.*

S seem'd a sharp sick - le, and each bright star A

cresc.

A seem'd a sharp sick - le, and each bright star A

cresc.

T seem'd a sharp sick - le, and each bright star A

cresc.

B seem'd a sharp sick - le, and each bright star A

THE ANGEL SOWERS

(Strict time till the pause)

16

S sword - point, that pierc'd, that pierc'd the blue.

A sword - point, that pierc'd, that pierc'd the blue.

T sword - point, that pierc'd, that pierc'd the blue.

B sword - point, that pierc'd, that pierc'd the blue.

♩ = 66

S "Our Fa - ther, whom an - gels in glo - ry hymn, Dost

A "Our Fa - ther, whom an - gels in glo - ry hymn, Dost

T "Our Fa - ther, whom an - gels in glo - ry hymn, Dost

B "Our Fa - ther, whom an - gels in glo - ry hymn, Dost

20

S Thou in Thy heav'n still reign?" — I cried; then look'd down - ward, with

A Thou in Thy heav'n still reign?" — I cried; then look'd down - ward, with

T Thou in Thy heav'n still reign?" — I cried; then look'd down - ward, with

B Thou in Thy heav'n still — reign?" —

THE ANGEL SOWERS

23

S
eyes grown dim, To the flow - er - less Earth a - gain.

A
eyes grown dim, To the flow - er - less Earth a - gain.

T
eyes grown dim, To the flow - er - less Earth a - gain.

B
p I look'd at the flow - er - less Earth a - gain.

♩ = 66 *grazioso*

S
p Then me - thought, that di - vid - ing the si - lent night, the

A
p Then me - thought, that di - vid - ing the si - lent night, the

T
p Then me - thought, that di - vid - ing the si - lent night, the

B
p Then me - thought, that di - vid - ing the si - lent night, the

30

S
an - gels of God came down; Each

A
an - gels of God came down; Each

T
an - gels of God came down; Each

B
an - gels of God came down, came down; Each

THE ANGEL SOWERS

34

S one wore a robe, than the snow more white, And each

A one wore a robe, than the snow more white, And each

T one wore a robe, than the snow more white, And each

B one wore a robe, than the snow more white, And each

38

S one a star - - - ry crown, *rit.*

A one a star - - - ry crown, *rit.* a star - ry

T one a star - - - ry crown, *rit.* a star - ry

B one a star - - - ry crown, *rit.* a star - ry

41

S *a tempo* a star - ry crown. With

A *a tempo* crown, a star - ry crown, a star - ry crown. With

T *a tempo* crown, a star - ry crown, a star - ry crown. With

B *a tempo* crown, a star - ry crown. With

THE ANGEL SOWERS

Allegro ♩. = 76

45

S mu - sic of heav - en their clear notes rang, As they pass'd o'er each fro - zen

A mu - sic of heav - en their clear notes rang, As they pass'd o'er each fro - zen

T mu - sic of heav - en their clear notes rang, As they pass'd o'er each fro - zen

B mu - sic of heav - en their clear notes rang, As they pass'd o'er each fro - zen

48

S mead, "We come from God's gar - den," they sweet - ly sang, "We

A mead, "We come from God's gar - den," they sweet - ly sang, "We

T mead, "We come from God's gar - den," they sweet - ly sang, "We

B mead, "We come from God's gar - den," they sweet - ly sang, "We

51

S *rit.* scat - ter the heav - en - ly seed, We scat - ter the heav - en - ly seed." "No *rit. molto* *p*

A *rit.* scat - ter the heav - en - ly seed, We scat - ter the heav - en - ly seed." "No *rit. molto* *p*

T *rit.* scat - ter the heav - en - ly seed, We scat - ter the heav - en - ly seed." "No *rit. molto* *p*

B *rit.* scat - ter the heav - en - ly seed, the heav - en - ly seed." "No *rit. molto* *p*

THE ANGEL SOWERS

Andante $\text{♩} = 66$

53

S more call this dear Earth 'The Sor-row-ful Star,' _____ En-shroud-ed in dark-wo-ven

A more call this dear Earth 'The Sor-row-ful Star,' _____ En-shroud-ed in dark-wo-ven

T more call this dear Earth 'The Sor-row-ful Star,' _____ En-shroud-ed in dark-wo-ven

B more call this dear Earth 'The Sor-row-ful Star,' _____

Allegro $\text{♩} = 76$

56

S pall, _____ For lo! in His heav-en so bright _____ and

A pall, _____ For lo! in His heav-en so bright _____ and

T pall, _____ For lo! in His heav-en so bright and

B For lo! in His heav-en so bright and

58

S far, _____ God lov-eth her best, _____ best of

A far, _____ God lov-eth her best, _____ best of

T far, _____ God lov-eth her best, _____ best of

B far, _____ God lov-eth her best, _____ best of

60

S all, God lov - eth her best of all, *rit.* best of all!"

A all, God lov - eth her best of all, *rit.* best of all!"

T all, God lov - eth her best of all, *rit.* best of all!"

B all, God lov - eth her best of all, *rit.* best of all!"

Andante ♩ = 60

S With glad-ness I gaz'd on each shin - ing face, And mark'd where the an - gels

A With glad-ness I gaz'd on each shin - ing face, And mark'd where the an - gels

T With glad-ness I gaz'd on each shin - ing face, And mark'd where the an - gels

B With glad-ness I gaz'd on each shin - ing face, And mark'd where the an - gels

66

S trod; Be - fore them, the Earth was a des - ert place; Be -

A trod; Be - fore them, the Earth was a des - ert place; Be -

T trod; Be - fore them, the Earth was a des - ert place; Be -

B trod; Be - fore them, the Earth was a des - ert place; Be -

THE ANGEL SOWERS

69

S hind them, The Gar - den of God.

A hind them, The Gar - den of God.

T hind them, The Gar - den of God.

B hind them, The Gar - den of God.

rit.

S The stars now seem - ed an - gels,

A The stars now seem - ed an - gels,

T The stars now seem - ed an - gels,

B The stars now seem - ed an - gels,

a tempo

mf

73

S an - gels that watch - ed a - bove; All fled, all fled was the

A an - gels that watch - ed a - bove; All fled, all fled was the

T an - gels that watch - ed a - bove; All fled, all fled was the

B an - gels that watch - ed a - bove; All fled, all fled was the

THE ANGEL SOWERS

76

S win - ter gloom, the win - - - ter gloom, For with *cresc.*

A win - ter gloom, the win - - - ter gloom, For with *cresc.*

T win - ter gloom, the win - - - ter gloom, For with *cresc.*

B win - ter gloom, the win - - - ter gloom, For with *cresc.*

79 *grazioso*

S blos - soms of Faith and Hope and Love The

A blos - soms of Faith and Hope and Love The

T blos - soms of Faith and Hope and Love The

B blos - soms of Faith and Hope and Love The

83

S glad Earth, the glad Earth was all, all a - *rit.*

A glad Earth, the glad Earth was all, all a - *rit.*

T glad Earth, the glad Earth was all, all a - *rit.*

B glad Earth, the glad Earth was all, all a - *rit.*

THE ANGEL SOWERS

86

S bloom; For with blos - soms of Faith and Hope and Love The

A bloom; For with blos - soms of Faith and Hope and Love The

T bloom; For with blos - soms of Faith and Hope and Love The

B bloom; For with blos - soms of Faith and Hope and Love The

cresc.

89

S glad Earth was all a - bloom, The

A glad Earth was all a - bloom, The

T glad Earth was all a - bloom, The

B glad Earth was all a - bloom, The

f

91

S glad Earth was all a - bloom, all a -

A glad Earth was all a - bloom, all a -

T glad Earth was all a - bloom, all a -

B glad Earth was all a - bloom, all a -

ff

Maestoso

S
bloom, all a - bloom, all a - bloom.

A
bloom, all a - bloom, all a - bloom.

T
bloom, all a - bloom, all a - bloom.

B
bloom, all a - bloom, all a - bloom.

Detailed description: This is a musical score for four voices: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The music is in the key of D major (two sharps) and is marked 'Maestoso'. The lyrics are 'bloom, all a - bloom, all a - bloom.' The score consists of four staves. The Soprano and Alto parts are in treble clef, while the Tenor and Bass parts are in bass clef. The lyrics are written below each staff. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some notes tied across measures. The Soprano and Alto parts have a melodic line, while the Tenor and Bass parts provide a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'bloom, all a - bloom, all a - bloom.'

J. Curwen & Sons
(1897)

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