

Lullabie

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Dow Partbooks (Christ Church, 1580s, Oxford MSS 984-988)

Superius

Medius

Contra

Tenor

Bassus

Lul - la

5

lul - la - by, Lul - la lul - la - by my sweet lit-tle

10

ba - by, my sweet lit-tle ba - by, what mean - est thou to cry,

Lullabie (score)

2
15

Lul - la lul-la - by, Lul - la lul-la-by, La lul-la lul-la-by,

20

La lul - la la lul-la-by, La lul-la-by, Lul - la - by, my sweet lit-tle

25

ba - by lul-lu - by. Be still my bles - sed babe,

30

though cause thou hast to mourn, Whose blood most in - no-cent to shed

35

the cru - el king has sworn, And lo a - las, be -

40

hold what slaugh-ter he doth make, Shed-ding the blood of

in - fants all, sweet sav - i-our for thy sake. A king is born they

say no king this king would kill. O woe

O woe and woe - ful hea - vy day when wret - ches have their will,

55

1. 2.

when wret - ches have their will, have their will. will.

The musical score consists of five staves. The top staff is the vocal line, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It contains the lyrics: "when wret - ches have their will, have their will. will." The lyrics are written in a cursive font. Above the first measure of the vocal line is the number "55". Above the first and second endings of the vocal line are the numbers "1." and "2." respectively. The second ending includes a sharp sign (#) above the staff. The bottom four staves are instrumental accompaniment, with the bottom-most staff using a bass clef. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and bar lines.