

BOOSEY & HAWKES

THIS LITTLE BABE

(from "A Ceremony of Carols")

Robert Southwell
(1561? - 1595)

BENJAMIN BRITTEN

Presto con fuoco (♩ = 180)

TREBLES I *f* This lit-tle Babe so

TREBLES II *f* This lit-tle Babe so

TREBLES III *f* This lit-tle Babe so

HARP (or Piano) *f marcato* *f sempre*

6

few days old, Is come to ri - fle Sa-tan's fold; All hell doth at his

few days old, Is come to ri - fle Sa-tan's fold; All hell doth at his

few days old, Is come to ri - fle Sa-tan's fold; All hell doth at his

10 *sempre f*
 pre-sence quake, Though he him-self for cold do shake; For in this weak un -
 pre-sence quake, Though he him-self for cold do shake; For in this weak un -
 pre-sence quake, Though he him-self for cold do shake; For in this weak un -

19

14
 - arm - ed wise The gates of hell he will _ sur - prise.
 - arm - ed wise The gates of hell he will _ sur - prise.
 - arm - ed wise The gates of hell he will _ sur - prise.

23
 na - ked br
 na - ked br
 _ His n

mp *pre f*

1 this weak un -

mp *pre f*

1 this weak un -

mp *pre f*

1 this weak un -

19 *f*

With tears he fights and wins the field, His

With tears he fights and wins the field, His

With tears he fights _____ and wins the field, _

f sempre

23

na - ked breast stands for a shield; His battering shot are bab-ish cries, His

na - ked breast stands for a shield; His battering shot are bab-ish cries, His

_____ His na-ked breast stands for a shield; His battering shot _____ are bab-ish cries, _

27 *sempre f*
 arrows looks of weeping eyes, His martial en - signs Cold and Need, And
 arrows looks of weeping eyes, His martial en - signs Cold and Need, And
 — His arrows looks of weeping eyes, — His mar-tial en - signs Cold and Need, —

36

31
 fee-ble Flesh his war - rior's steed.
 fee-ble Flesh his war - rior's steed.
 — And fee-ble Flesh his war-rior's steed.

40
 broken wal
 a brok
 but a

old and Need, And

old and Need, And

gns Cold and Need, -

36 *f*

His camp is pitch - èd in a stall, His bulwark but a

f

His camp is pitch - èd in a stall, His bulwark but

f

His camp is pitch - èd in a stall, His bul-wark

mf ma sempre marc.

40

broken wall; The crib his trench, haystacks his stakes; Of shepherds he his

a broken wall; The crib his trench, haystacks his stakes; Of shepherds he

but a broken wall; The crib his trench, haystacks his stakes; Of shepherds

44

muster makes; And thus, as sure his foe to wound, The angels' trumps a -

his muster makes; And thus, as sure his foe to wound, — The angels' trumps

he his muster makes; And thus, as sure his foe to wound, The an-gels'

53

thou in fig

thou in fig

thou in fig

48

- la - rum sound. *ff* My soul, with Christ join

a - la - rum sound. *ff* My soul, with Christ join

trumps a - la - rum sound. *ff* My soul, with Christ join

cresc. *ff*

57

- in his crit

- in his crit

- in his crit

ff

ls' trumps a -

The angels' trumps

i, The an-gels'

oul, with Christ join

oul, with Christ join

oul, with Christ join

ff

53

thou in fight; Stick to the tents that he hath pight. With-

thou in fight; Stick to the tents that he hath pight. With-

thou in fight; Stick to the tents that he hath pight. With-

57

- in his crib is sur-est ward; This lit-tle Babe will be thy guard. *ff* If

- in his crib is sur-est ward; This lit-tle Babe will be thy guard. *ff* If

- in his crib is sur-est ward; This lit-tle Babe will be thy guard. *ff* If

62 **con slancio**
sostenuto

thou wilt foil — thy foes with joy, — then flit not from.

sostenuto

thou wilt foil — thy foes with joy, — then flit not from.

sostenuto

thou wilt foil — thy foes with joy, — then flit not from.

con slancio
arpeggiando

fff

67 *ff* **senza rall.**

— this hea - ven - ly Boy. —

ff

— this hea - ven - ly Boy. —

div. ff

— this hea - ven - ly Boy. —

senza rall.

ff sf sf sf sf



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