

The Gartan Mother's Lullaby

Traditional Irish
arranged by Neil Ginsberg

Very freely, gently

Flute or
Vln.
(opt.)

mp *mf* *pp rall.* *in tempo* *mp*

* Begin piece at measure 6 if no flute or violin.

6 *♩ = 50 legato, gentle*
mf

legato, gentle
mf play RH if no flute

10 *legato, gentle*
mp

S
Sleep, my child, for the red bee hums The si - lent twi-light_

A
legato, gentle
mp
Sleep, my child, for the red bee hums The si - lent twi-light_

mp both hands *mf* *mp*

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13

falls. The Ban - shee from the grey rock comes, To wrap the world in

falls. The Ban - shee from the grey rock comes, To wrap the world in

mf *mp*

For Perusal Only

17

thrall. A ly-an - van, O my child, my joy, My

thrall. A ly-an - van, O my child, my joy, My

mf *mf* *f*

20

love, _____ my heart's de - sire, The crick-et_ sings you a
 love, _____ my heart's de - sire, The crick-et_ sings you a

mf *pp*

For Perusal Only

23

lul - la - by Be - side _____ the dy - in' _ fire.
 lul - la - by Be - side _____ the dy - in' _ fire.

mf play RH if no flute

27

legato, gentle
mf

Dusk is drawn, and the Green Man's thorn Is wreathed in rings of fog.

mp

31

mp

For Perusal Only *mp*

Oo_

mp

Oo_

mf legato, gentle

Shee - vra sails _____ his boat 'til morn Up - on _____ the star - ry

mf legato, gentle

Shee - vra sails his boat 'til morn Up - on _____ the star - ry

mp

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The image shows a musical score for a song. It features a piano accompaniment and several vocal lines. The score is written in a key with two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The piano part consists of a right-hand melody and a left-hand accompaniment. The vocal lines are arranged in a choir-like fashion, with multiple parts. The lyrics are: "bog. A ly-an - van, O the pale half-moon, Hath bog. Oo and weeps to hear this sad, sleep tune, I and weeps to hear this sad, sleep tune, I brimmed her cusp in dew, and weeps to hear this sad, sleep tune, I and weeps to hear this sad, sleep tune, I". The score includes dynamic markings such as *f*, *mp*, and *mp slower*, and a tempo marking of *slower*. The score is numbered 314-6.

37

314-6

41

a tempo
mf
a tempo
a tempo
a tempo
a tempo
a tempo
a tempo
a tempo
mf play RH if no flute

sing, my love, to you, to you
sing, my love, to you, to you
sing, my love, to you, to you
sing, my love, to you, to you
sing, my love, to you, to you

For Perusal Only

About the arranger:

Neil Ginsberg (b. 1969) is a graduate of the Hartt School of Music and the University of Southern California where he earned a BMI award for excellence in film music. Neil is a former faculty member of the Juilliard School of Drama, the 92nd Street Y School of Music, the Berkshire Ensemble for Theater Arts, and the International Schools Theater Association where he led workshops in singing, song writing and the ensemble technique. Currently, Neil teaches music and drama at the Brooklyn Friends School and is the director of youth music at the First Unitarian Church of Brooklyn.

See and hear additional titles by Neil Ginsberg at www.sbmp.com.

Listen to a recording of *Gartan Mother's Lullabye* at www.sbmp.com
Performed by the San Jose State University Choraliens, Charlene Archibeque, conductor
Also available on CD: Octavos 3, available for purchase at www.sbmp.com

very freely, gently

mp

more motion

you
you
you
to you

rall. *pp*

l.h. *ppp* *r.h.*

For Perusal Only

Sleep, my child, for the ree-bee hums
The silent twilight falls.
The Banshee from the grey rock comes,
To wrap the world in thrall.

A *Iyanvan*, O my child, my joy,
My love, my heart's desire,
The cricket sings you a lullaby,
Beside the dyin' fire.

Dusk is drawn and the Green Man's thorn
Is wreathed in rings of fog.
Sheevra sails his boat 'til morn
Upon the starry bog.

A *Iyanvan*, O the pale half-moon,
Hath brimmed her cusp in dew,
And weeps to hear this sad, sleep tune,
I sing, my love, to you.

About the song:

The gift of Irish imagery is fully evident in the songs they sing to their babies. Often the music has a haunting quality such as we find in *The Gartan Mother's Lullaby*. We are grateful to Irish singer Alice Flynn who shared her research of this song with us, and aided us in creating our version of the lyrics. You can learn more about this song at her website: <http://www.mcn.net/~acflynn/gartan.html>

Gartan - an area and a lake in County Donegal

Banshee - a ghost-like fairy woman who haunted the rock of Graglea above Killaloe, near the old palace of Kincora; in Gaelic tradition she bears the name *Aoibheal* (pronounced EE-vahl); this has sometimes been confused with the word *evil*; we chose to use the word Banshee rather than a sound-alike word for *Aoibheal*

thrall - English word for a person held in bondage

Iyanvan - an attempt (which has become traditional for this song) to duplicate the sound of the Irish word spelled *lean-bhan* which means *a child*; pronounce *Iyanvan* LEEAHN-uh-vahn, the *uh* is very, very short like a grace note

Green Man - a medieval face with leaves growing out of it; often seen carved into old European buildings, it represents the death and rebirth of life in nature that occurs annually in the cycle of the seasons

Sheevra (Irish spelling *siabhra*) - a particularly mischievous type of little fairy people