

The first Christmas night

(Baby Jesus was born in Bethlehem)

Stuart R Palmer



The first Christmas night

Julie Gibault

melody Carl Wilhelm
arr. & harm. Stuart R Palmer

$\text{♩} = 108$ Gently flowing

SA *mf* Ba - by Je - sus was

TB *mp* Ah! _____

Piano (or organ) *mp* *Red.* *Red.* *simile*

7

SA born in Beth - le - hem, long a - go on a win - ter night; _____

TB Ah! _____ Ah! _____ Ah! _____

Pno.

13

SA *f* in the calm still - ness stars in the hea - vens bathed the vil - lage and

TB Ah! _____ Ah! _____ Ah! _____

Pno.

19 *mf*

SA sta - ble in light.

TB Ah!

Pno.

25 *mp*

SA Ah! Ah! Ah!

TB *mf*

Flocks were gra - zing and shep - herds lis - ten - ing there on Beth - le - hem's

Pno. *mf*

31

SA Ah! Ah! Ah!

TB

qui - et hill; an - gels from hea - ven came to them sing - ing,

Pno.

37

SA

Ah! Ah!

f *mf*

TB

sing - ing car - ols and songs of good will.

Pno.

43

SA

mf

"Come to Beth - le-hem, come to Beth - le-hem,"

TB

"Come to Beth - le-hem, come to Beth - le-hem,"

Pno.

49

SA

an - gels sang in the star - ry light; — "wor-ship the Christ Child,

TB

an - gels sang in the star - ry light; — "wor-ship the Christ Child,

Pno.

55

SA

TB

Pno.

f *mp*

sing al - le - lu - ia, come to Beth - le-hem's sta - ble to - night."

f *mp*

sing al - le - lu - ia, come to Beth - le-hem's sta - ble to - night."

61

SA

TB

Pno.

allarg.

mp





Composer's notes

This piece originally came to my attention as an un-harmonised and un-arranged melody. It has developed over a number of years into the arrangement presented here.

Performance notes

Ensure that the "Ah!"s don't dominate the melody, particularly in the first verse.

For organ accompaniment, duplicate the first note of each bar on a soft 16' stop and hold for the full bar.

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It is expected that musicians will make suitable adjustments to vocal disposition and use of instruments to suit their own circumstances. Any alteration which goes beyond such limits must be qualified as an "arrangement" by yourself.

Feedback

Comments on the music are welcomed. It would also be good to hear of performances taking place and to receive copies of any recordings made.

Contact and downloads

email: hello@stuartpalmercomposer.scot

website: www.stuartpalmercomposer.scot

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