

PROMOTIONAL COPIES
for reading only

arranged by

Peter Backhouse

The cherry tree carol

Carol arranged for
unaccompanied mixed voices

for The Voluntary Choir, St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Edinburgh

The cherry tree carol

English traditional carol
arranged by PETER BACKHOUSE
(b. 1954)

With movement $\text{♩} = c.60$

SOPRANO
ALTO

mf

1. Jo - seph was an old man, And an old man was he,

TENOR
BASS

mf

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of musical notation for the Soprano and Alto parts. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 2/2 time. The Soprano part begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The Alto part begins with a half note G3, followed by quarter notes A3, B3, and C4. The Tenor and Bass parts provide a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines. The dynamic marking is mezzo-forte (mf).

5

When he mar - ried Ma - ry In the land of Ga - li - lee.

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of musical notation for the Soprano and Alto parts, measures 5-8. The Soprano part continues with quarter notes D5, E5, and F5. The Alto part continues with quarter notes D4, E4, and F4. The Tenor and Bass parts continue with their accompaniment. The dynamic marking is mezzo-forte (mf).

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9

mp

2. And as they were walk - ing Through an or - chard so good,

mp

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of musical notation for the Soprano and Alto parts, measures 9-12. The Soprano part begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The Alto part begins with a half note G3, followed by quarter notes A3, B3, and C4. The Tenor and Bass parts provide a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines. The dynamic marking is mezzo-piano (mp).

13

Where were cher - ries and ber - ries As red as a - ny blood.

Detailed description: This block contains the fourth system of musical notation for the Soprano and Alto parts, measures 13-16. The Soprano part continues with quarter notes D5, E5, and F5. The Alto part continues with quarter notes D4, E4, and F4. The Tenor and Bass parts continue with their accompaniment. The dynamic marking is mezzo-piano (mp).

17 *mp*

S. I
3. O then be - spoke Ma - ry, With words both meek and

S. II
A.

20

mild, 'Pluck me one cher-ry, Jo - seph; For that I am with child.'

Ah

p

Ah 'Pluck me one cher-ry, Jo - seph; For that I am with child.'

25 *mf*

T. 4. 'Go to the tree then, Ma - ry, And it shall bow to thee; And

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mf

B. I
B. II 4. 'Go to the tree then, Ma - ry, And it shall bow to thee; And

29

you shall ga - ther cher - ries, By one, by two, by three.'

you shall ga - ther cher - ries, by two, by three.'

33 *mp*

S. I
5. Then bowed down the high - est tree Un - to our La - dy's hand;

p

S. II
A.
Ah

37

'See,' Ma - ry cried, 'see, Jo - seph, I have cher - ries at com - mand.'

mp

'See,' Ma - ry cried, 'see, Jo - seph, I have cher - ries at com - mand.'

T. *mf* 41

6. 'O eat your cher-ries, Ma - ry O eat your cher-ries now; O

B. I *mf*

B. II

6. 'O eat your cher-ries, Ma - ry O eat your cher-ries now; O

45

eat your cher - ries, Ma - ry, That grow up - on the bough.'

eat your cher - ries, Ma - ry, That grow up - on the bough.'

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Slightly slower

7. Then Mar - ry plucked a cher - ry, As red as a - ny blood, Then

S. *mp* 49

A. *p*

Ah,

T. *p*

B.

53

Ma - ry went she home - ward All with her hea - vy load.