

William Grosvenor Neil

# The Newborn's Cry

(2025)

*for*

TTBB Chorus, a cappella



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The newborn's cry  
strikes midnight air.  
The voice of God  
is finally here.

But Little Lord,  
why do you weep?  
Your Mother's near  
now go to sleep.  
Your Mother's near  
now go to sleep.

It was foretold  
that such a birth  
would break the bondage  
of the earth.

So Little Lord,  
why do you cry?  
Hear Your Mother sing  
her lullaby.  
Let Mother sing  
her lullaby.

Both poor and rich  
have come to see  
how man is equal  
on his knees.

So Little Lord,  
why shed those tears?  
Your Mother holds  
your life so dear.  
Your precious life  
she holds so dear.

Oh, Little Lord  
what will You be?  
Your Mother rocks  
her babe to sleep,  
Today has cried  
"Eternity".

Text, excerpted from the poem, *Today Eternity Has Cried*, by Rita A. Simmonds, used by permission from the author.

Duration: 4:15

# The Newborn's Cry

3

Rita A. Simmonds

**Andante e legato**

William Grosvenor Neil

8 **p**  $\text{♩} = 80$

Tenor 1 The new-born's cry strikes the mid-night air. The voice of **p**

Tenor 2 The new-born's cry strikes the mid-night air. The voice of **p**

Bass 1 The new-born's cry strikes the mid-night air. The voice of **p**

Bass 2 The new-born's cry strikes the mid-night air. The voice of

$\text{♩} = 66$  **Allegretto**

8 **f**

God is fin - al - ly here. But Lit - tle Lord, why do you weep? Your **f**

God is fin - al - ly here. But Lit - tle Lord, why do you weep? Your **f**

God is fin - al - ly here. But Lit - tle Lord, why do you weep? Your **f**

God is fin - al - ly here. But Lit - tle Lord, why do you weep? Your

13

Moth-er's near now go to sleep. Your      Moth-er's near      now go to

Moth-er's near now go to sleep. Your      Moth-er's near      now go to

Moth-er's near now go to sleep. Your      Moth-er's near      now go to

Moth-er's near now go to sleep. Your      Moth-er's near      now go to

**Andante e legato**

17

sleep      It was for - told that such a

sleep      It was for - told that such a

sleep      It was for - told that such a

sleep      It was for - told that such a

**Allegretto** $\text{♩} = 66$ **f**

5

24

birth would break the bon - dage of the earth. So Lit-tle Lord why  
birth would break the bon - dage of the earth. So Lit-tle Lord why  
birth would break the bon - dage of the earth. So Lit-tle Lord why  
birth would break the bon - dage of the earth. So Lit-tle Lord why

30

do you cry? Hear Your Moth-er sing her lul - la - by.  
do you cry? Hear Your Moth-er sing her lul - la - by.  
do you cry? Hear Your Moth-er sing her lul - la - by.  
do you cry? Hear Your Moth-er sing her lul - la - by.

***pp*** —————***p***

Let your Moth-er sing her lul - la - by. lul - la - by lul - la - by

***pp*** —————***p***

Let your Moth-er sing her lul - la - by. lul - la - by lul - la - by

***pp*** —————***p***

Let your Moth-er sing her lul - la - by. lul - la - by lul - la - by

***pp*** —————***p***

Let your Moth-er sing her lul - la - by. lul - la by lul - la - by

**A tempo primo*****ppp*** $\text{♩} = 80$   
***pp***

lul - la - by. Both poor and rich have come to see how

***ppp******pp***

lul - la - by Both poor and

***ppp***

lul - la - by

***ppp***

lul - la - by.

45

*p* ————— *mp*

man is e - qual on his knees. how

rich have come to see how man is e - qual on his knees.

*p* —————

Both poor and rich have come to see how man is *mp*

Both poor and rich have

52

———— *ff* ————— *f*

man- is e - qual on his knees. So Lit-tle

*f* ————— *ff* ————— *f* *p*

how man is e - qual on his knees. So Lit-tle

———— *ff* ————— *f* *p*

e - qual on his knees. So Lit-tle

———— *ff* ————— *f* *p*

come to see how man is e - qual on his knees. So Lit-tle

### Allegretto

8

59

 $\text{♩.} = 66$ **f**

Lord, Why shed those tears? Your Moth-er holds Your life so dear. Your

Lord, Why shed those tears? Your Moth-er holds Your life so dear. Your

Lord, Why shed those tears? Your Moth-er holds Your life so dear. Your

Lord, Why shed those tears? Your Moth-er holds Your life so dear. Your

63

**p**

pre - cious life she holds so dear.

Oh Lit - tle Lord what will You

**p**

pre - cious life she holds so dear.

Oh Lit - tle Lord what will You

**p**

pre - cious life she holds so dear.

Oh Lit - tle Lord what will You

**p**

pre - cious life she holds so dear.

Oh Lit\tle Lord what will You

67

be? Your moth-er rocks her babe to sleep, sleep sleep

be? Your moth-er rocks her babe to sleep, sleep sleep

be? Your moth-er rocks her babe to sleep, sleep sleep

$\text{♩} = 60$

be? Your moth-er rocks her babe to sleep, sleep sleep

be? Your moth-er rocks her babe to sleep, sleep sleep

73

sleep. To - day has cried "E - tern - i - ty has

sleep. To - day has

sleep.

sleep.

sleep. To - day has cried "E - tern - i - ty has

sleep. To - day has

sleep.

sleep.

10

80

**p** *cri - ed "E - tern - i - ty"* **mp** *has*

8

*cried "E - tern - i - ty" has cri - ed "E - tern - i - ty"*

8

**p** *To - day has cried "E - tern - i - ty" has cri - ed*

**mp** *To - day has cried has*

87

**ff** *cried "E - - - tern - i - ty"* **f** **mf** *"E - tern - i -*

8

**f** *has cri - ed "E - tern - i - ty"* **ff** *"E - tern - i -* **f** **mf** *"E - tern - i -*

8

**ff** *has cried "E - tern - i - ty"* **f** **mf** *"E - tern - i -*

**ff** *cried "E - tern - i - ty"* **f** **mf** *"E - tern - i -*

94

8

ty" "E - tern - i - ty"

8

ty" "E - tern - i - ty"

8

ty" "E - tern - i - ty"

8

ty" "E - tern - i - ty"

pp

pp

pp

pp

$\downarrow = 50$

**Meno mosso**

100

8

ppp

"E - tern - i - ty".

8

ppp

"E - tern - i - ty".

8

ppp

"E - tern - i - ty".

8

ppp

"E - tern - i - ty".