



THE HAYMAKERS

ALFRED JAMES CALDICOTT
(1842-1897)

Alfred James Caldicott (1842–1897) was born at Worcester, England. At age nine he became a choirboy in the cathedral, eventually becoming the leading treble, then became assistant to the cathedral organist when his voice broke at age fourteen. He spent two years studying at the Leipzig Conservatorium, returning to Worcester and became organist at St. Stephen's as well as teaching and conducting a musical society he established. In 1878 he graduated from Cambridge and experienced his first notable success as a composer. His humorous glee "Humpty Dumpty" was awarded a special prize at a competition by the Manchester Glee Society. In 1879 his serious glee "Winter Days" won the prize offered by the Huddersfield Glee and Madrigal Union. In 1882 Caldicott settled in London and began to compose operettas. He went to the United States in 1890 as conductor to Miss Agnes Huntingdon's light opera company. Returning to England in 1892, he was appointed principal of the London College of Music and became conductor at the Comedy Theatre. Incessant work overtaxed his strength and he died near Gloucester in 1897. His humorous novelty combining a nursery rhyme with clever music in "Humpty Dumpty" was so successful that he composed another in the same year, "Jack and Jill," and later "Little Jack Horner." Other composers imitated him for a time. He set these rhymes in a witty style, with full use of contrast and the opportunities afforded by individual words—for instance, the descent of all voices through the interval of an eleventh at the words "Humpty Dumpty had a great fall."

Across the fields, adown the glade,
Through waving grass and daisies sweet,
With rake in hand, a merry band,
At break of day again we meet.

The lark springs up with dewy wing,
The sturdy mowers following,
We wake the morn and blithely sing:
Tra la la la la la.

For now the day's work hath begun,
The buttercup doth greet the sun,
And willing petals soon unfold,
And throw him back a kiss of gold.

While meadow sweet and clover red
The flowers a generous perfume shed,
And Nature doth her treasures bring,
To gladden hearts and make us sing:
Tra la la la la la.

Oh, happy days of early life
So free from trouble, sorrow, strife,
Alas! that we like grasses long,
Must bow our heads and hush our song.

When like the wild flowers fall and lithe,
Which fall before the mowers scythe,
Each voice shall lose its merry ring,
And fail us when our hearts would sing:
Tra la la la la la la la.

THE HAYMAKERS

Alfred J. Caldicott

Allegretto ♩ = 104

S
A
T
B

A - cross the fields, a -
A - cross the fields, a - down the glade, A - cross the fields, a -
A - cross the fields, a - down the glade, A - cross the fields, a -
A - cross the fields, a - down the glade, A - cross the fields, a -

5
S
A
T
B

down the glade, Through wav - ing grass and dai - sies sweet, With rake in hand, a
down the glade, Through wav - ing grass and dai - sies sweet, With rake in hand, a
down the glade, Through wav - ing grass and dai - sies sweet, With rake in hand, a
down the glade, Through wav - ing, wav - ing grass, With rake in hand, a

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9

cresc.

S mer - ry band, At break of day a - gain we meet, at dawn a -

cresc.

A mer - ry band, At break of day a - gain we meet, at break of day a -

cresc.

T mer - ry band, At break of day a - gain we meet, we meet, at

cresc.

B mer - ry band, At break of day a - gain we meet, we meet, at

13

S gain we meet. The lark springs

A gain we meet. The lark springs up with dew - y wing, springs

T dawn we meet. The lark springs up with dew - y wing, springs

B dawn we meet. The lark springs

16

S up with dew - y wing, The sturdy mow - ers

A up with dew - y wing, The sturdy mow - ers

T up with dew - y wing, The sturdy, sturdy mow - ers

B up with dew - y wing, The sturdy, sturdy mow - ers

THE HAYMAKERS

19

S fol - low - ing, the mow - ers fol - low - ing, We wake the morn and__

A fol - low - ing, the mow - ers fol - low - ing, We wake the morn and__

T fol - low - ing, the mow - ers fol - low - ing, We

B fol - low - ing, the mow - ers _____ We

22

S blithe - ly sing, we blithe - ly sing: Tra la la la la

A blithe - ly sing, we blithe - ly sing: Tra la la la la la, tra la

T wake the morn and blithe - ly sing, we sing: Tra la la la la la, tra la

B wake the morn and blithe - ly sing: Tra la la la la la, tra la

26

S la, Tra la la la la la la, Tra la la, tra la

A la la la la, tra la la la la la la la la, Tra la la, tra la la, tra la

T la la la la, tra la la la la la la la la la, Tra la la la la la, tra la

B la la la la, tra la la la la la la la la, Tra la la la la la, tra la

THE HAYMAKERS

30

S *f* la la la la la la la *rit.* la la.

A *f* la la la la, tra la la la la la *rit.* la la.

T *f* la la la la, tra la la la la la *rit.* la la.

B *f* la la la la, tra la la la la la *rit.* la la.

34

S *f* For now the day's work

A *p* A - cross the fields, a - down the glade, *f* For now the day's work

T *p* A - cross the fields, a - down the glade, *f* For now the day's work

B *p* A - cross the fields, a - down the glade, *f* For now the day's work

38

S hath be - gun, The but - ter - cup doth greet the sun, And

A hath be - gun, The but - ter - cup doth greet the sun, And

T hath be - gun, The but - ter - cup doth greet the sun, And

B hath be - gun, The flow - ers greet the sun, And

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41

S will - ing pet - als soon un - fold, And throw him back a

A will - ing pet - als soon un - fold, And throw him back a

T will - ing pet - als soon un - fold, And throw him back a

B will - ing pet - als soon un - fold, And throw him back a

44

S kiss of gold, Throw him back a kiss of gold. The flowers

A kiss of gold, Throw back a kiss, a kiss of gold. While mead - ow sweet and

T kiss of gold, Throw back a kiss of gold. While mead - ow sweet and

B kiss of gold, Throw back a kiss of gold. The flowers

48

S a gen - 'rous per - fume shed, And Na - ture doth her

A clo - ver red a gen - 'rous per - fume shed, And Na - ture doth her

T clo - ver red a gen - 'rous per - fume shed, And Na - ture doth her

B a gen - 'rous per - fume shed, And Na - ture, Na - ture doth her

THE HAYMAKERS

52

S
treas - ures bring, her boun - teous treas - ures — bring To glad - den hearts and —

A
treas - ures bring, her boun - teous treas - ures bring To glad - den hearts and —

T
treas - ures bring, her boun - teous treas - ures bring To

B
treas - ures bring, her treas - ures bring To

56

S
make us sing, to make _____ us sing: Tra la la la la

A
make us sing, to make _____ us sing: Tra la la la la la, tra la

T
glad - den hearts and make _____ us sing, to _____ sing: Tra la la la la la, tra la

B
glad - den hearts and make us sing: Tra la la la la la, tra la

60

S
la, tra la la la la la la, _____ Tra la la, tra la

A
la la la la, tra la la la la la la la la, Tra la la, tra la la, tra la

T
la la la la, tra la la la la la la la la la, Tra la la la la la, tra la

B
la la la la, tra la la la la la la la la, Tra la la la la la, tra la

THE HAYMAKERS

64

f *rit.*

S la la la la la la la la la.

A la la la la, tra la la la la la la la la.

T la la la la, tra la la la la la la la la.

B la la la la, tra la la la la la la la la.

Adagio ♩ = 72

68

p

S Oh, hap - py days of ear - ly life _____ So free from trou - ble, sor - row,

A Oh, hap - py days of ear - ly life _____ So free from trou - ble, sor - row,

T Oh, hap - py days of ear - ly life _____ So free from trou - ble, sor - row,

B Oh, hap - py days of ear - ly life _____ So free from trou - ble, sor - row,

72

pp

S strife, — A - las! that we like grass - es long, Must bow our heads and

A strife, — A - las! that we like grass - es long, Must bow our heads and

T strife, — A - las! that we like grass - es long, Must bow our heads and

B strife, — A - las! that we like grass - es long, Must bow our heads and

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76

S hush our song. When like the wild flow'rs fall and lithe, _____ Which

A hush our song. When like the wild flow'rs fall and lithe, _____ Which

T hush our song. When like the wild flow'rs fall and lithe, _____ Which

B hush our song. When like the wild flow'rs fall and lithe, _____ Which

79

S fall be - fore the mow - ers scythe, _____ Each voice shall lose its

A fall be - fore the mow - ers scythe, _____ Each voice shall lose _____ its

T fall be - fore the mow - ers scythe, _____ Each voice shall lose _____ its

B fall be - fore the scythe, _____ Each voice shall lose its

82

S mer - ry ring, And fail us when our hearts would sing: *rit.*

A mer - ry ring, And fail us when our hearts would sing: *rit.*

T mer - ry ring, And fail us, fail us when our hearts would sing: *rit.*

B mer - ry ring, And fail us, fail us when our hearts would sing: *rit.*

THE HAYMAKERS

Allegro

S Tra la la, tra la la, tra la *cresc.*

A Tra la la la la la, tra la la la la la, tra la *cresc.*

T Tra la la la la la, tra la la la la la, tra la *cresc.*

B Tra la la la la la, tra la la la la la, tra la *cresc.*

87

S la la la la la, ³ tra la la, tra la *f*

A la la la la la la la, tra la la la la la, tra la *f*

T la la la la la la la, tra la la la la la, tra la *f*

B la la la la la la la, tra la la la la la, tra la *f*

90

S la, tra la la la la la la la la. *ff* *rit.*

A la la la la, tra la la la la la la la la. *ff* *rit.*

T la la la la, tra la la la la la la la la. *ff* *rit.*

B la la la la, tra la la la la la la la la. *ff* *rit.*

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