

THERE WILL COME SOFT RAINS

for S.S.A. voices and piano
with optional PianoTrax CD*

Words by
SARA TEASDALE (1883-1933)

Music by
RUTH MORRIS GRAY

Gently, with freedom (♩ = ca. 88-92)

PIANO

4 SOPRANO I *poco rit.* 5 *a tempo* *mp* and —

SOPRANO II *poco rit.* *a tempo* *mp* and —

ALTO *poco rit.* *mp* *a tempo*

There will come soft rains and the smell of the ground,

* Also available for S.A.T.B. (46594) and S.A.B. (39755). PianoTrax 5 Accompaniment CD available (39670).

Sara Teasdale was born in 1883 in St. Louis, Missouri and later moved with her husband to New York City in 1916. Her poetry was described by critics as “full of musical language and evocative emotion.” In 1918, she won the Columbia University Poetry Society prize (the forerunner of the Pulitzer Prize for poetry) and the Poetry Society of America prize for *Love Songs*, published in 1917. Ms. Teasdale wrote “There Will Come Soft Rains” in her disillusionment over World War I. In the poem, she describes nature’s response to war, noting that, “Spring herself, when she awoke at dawn, would scarcely know that we were gone.” This poem was published in 1920 in a collection entitled *Flame and Shadow*.

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7

swal - lows cir - cling with their shim-m'ring sound;

swal - lows cir - cling with their shim-m'ring sound;

and

9

and wild plum trees in

and wild plum trees in

frogs in pools — sing-ing at night, and wild plum trees in

12

poco rit.

trem - u - lous white. _____

poco rit.

trem - u - lous white. _____ There will

poco rit.

trem - u - lous white. _____

poco rit.

15

a tempo

Come soft rains. _____ Come soft

a tempo

come soft rains, soft rains. _____ There will come soft rains, soft

a tempo

Come soft rains. _____ Come soft

a tempo

18

rains. _____ Come soft rains, _____ soft

rains. _____ There will come soft rains, soft rains, _____ soft

rains. _____ Come soft rains, _____ soft

21

rains, soft _____ rain. _____

rains, soft rain. _____

rains, soft rain. _____

25

27

*poco rit.**a tempo*

Rob-ins will _ wear their _

*poco rit.**a tempo*

Rob-ins will _ wear their _

*poco rit.**a tempo**poco rit.**a tempo*

28

feath - er - y fire,

on a low fence wire.

feath - er - y fire,

Not

whis-tling their _ whims on a low fence wire.

31

None will know, will care at last when

one will know of war, not one will care at last when

None will know, will care at last when

34

poco rit. *mf*

it is done. Not

poco rit. *mf*

it is done. Not

poco rit. *mf*

it is done. Not

poco rit.

37

a tempo

one would mind, nei-ther bird — nor tree, if man - kind per - ished

a tempo

one would mind, nei-ther bird — nor tree, if man - kind per - ished

a tempo

one would mind, nei-ther bird nor tree, if man - kind per - ished

mf a tempo

40

ut - ter - ly; and Spring her - self, when she a - woke — at dawn, would

ut - ter - ly; and Spring her - self, when she a - woke — at dawn,

ut - ter - ly; — and Spring her - self, when she a - woke at dawn, —

43

decresc. *poco rit.*

scarce-ly know _____ that we were gone, that we were

decresc. *poco rit.*

would scarce-ly know that we were gone, that we were

decresc. *poco rit.*

that we were gone, that we were

46

a tempo *poco rit.* **48** *a tempo* *mp*

gone. _____ Come soft

a tempo *poco rit.* *mp* *a tempo*

gone. _____ There will come soft rains, soft

a tempo *poco rit.* *a tempo* *mp*

gone. _____ Come soft

49

musical score for voice and piano, measures 49-51. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The time signature is 4/4. The vocal part consists of three staves. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves (treble and bass clef). The lyrics are: rains. _____ Come soft rains. _____ rains. _____ There will come soft rains, soft rains. _____ There will rains. _____ Come soft rains. _____

52

musical score for voice and piano, measures 52-54. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The time signature is 4/4. The vocal part consists of three staves. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves (treble and bass clef). The lyrics are: Come soft rains, _____ soft rains, come soft rains, soft rains, _____ soft rains, _____ Come soft rains, _____ soft rains, _____

55

58

soft _____ rain, _____ Soft rain, _____

soft rain, _____

soft _____ rain, _____ Soft

The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note melody in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand, with occasional chords and rests.

59

_____ soft rain,

Soft rain, _____

rain, _____ soft

The piano accompaniment continues with a consistent eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a melodic line in the left hand, including some chordal textures.

66

46595