

# Lulle Lullay

Trad. from Gatlinburg, TN 1934

Gracefully ♩ = 115

Dulcimer

Std. Dulcimer

Std Dulcimer

The first system of the score is for Dulcimer and Standard Dulcimer. It consists of three staves. The top staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a time signature of 6/8. The melody is written in eighth notes. The lyrics are: "Lul - lay, — Thou tin - ny lit - tle Child, — Bye - bye, — lul - le — lul - lay; — Lul -". The middle and bottom staves are for Standard Dulcimer, with two systems of strings. The top string is tuned D-A-C and the bottom string is tuned D-A-A. The fret numbers are: 3 3 1 3 5 4 5 | 4 3 4 0 1 2 | 3 4 5 6 4 5 | 7 7 7.

Dul.

Dul.

Dul.

The second system of the score is for Dulcimer. It consists of three staves. The top staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a time signature of 6/8. The melody is written in eighth notes. The lyrics are: "lay, — Thou ti - ny lit - tle Child, — Bye - bye, — lul - le, — lul - lay. —". The middle and bottom staves are for Dulcimer, with two systems of strings. The fret numbers are: 8 7 8 5 4 3 | 4 5 2 0 1 2 | 3 1 3 4 3 0 | 1 1.

**Lulle Lullay**

Lullay, thou tiny little child  
Bye-bye, lulle, lullay;  
Lullay, thou tiny little child,  
Bye-bye, lulle, lullay.

Oh sisters two, how may we do  
To preserve this day?  
To this poor youngling for whom we sing  
Bye-bye, lulle lullay.

Herod, the king, in his raging,  
Charged he hath this day  
His soldiers in their strength and might  
All children young to slay.

Then woe is me, poor child, for thee,  
And ever mourn and say,  
For at thy parting nor say nor sing  
Bye-bye, lulle, lullay.

And then the stars in-gather do,  
In their far venture stay,  
Then smile as dreaming, little one,  
Bye-bye, lulle, lullay.

*Recorded at Old-timers' Day, June 16th, Gatlinburg, Tennessee,  
from the singing of an old lady known only to me as  
"the old lady with the gray hat".*

*It is my belief that this song came from the Shapenote singers.  
Note by John Jacob Niles*