

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 *mp*

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

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

ALTO *poco rit.* *mp* *a tempo* and —

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

poco rit. *a tempo*

* 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

Piano accompaniment for measures 7-8.

9

and wild plum trees in

and wild plum trees in

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

Piano accompaniment for measures 9-12.

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12

poco rit.

poco rit.

poco rit.

poco rit.

trem - u - lous white. _____

trem - u - lous white. _____

There will

trem - u - lous white. _____

Piano accompaniment for measures 12-15. The right hand plays chords and moving lines, while the left hand provides a steady bass line. The tempo is marked *poco rit.*

15

a tempo

a tempo

a tempo

a tempo

Come soft rains. _____

Come soft

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

Come soft rains. _____

Come soft

Piano accompaniment for measures 15-18. The right hand features chords and melodic lines, while the left hand plays a rhythmic accompaniment. The tempo is marked *a tempo*.

18

rains. _____ Come soft rains, _____ soft

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

rains. _____ Come soft rains, _____ soft

The musical score for measures 18-20 consists of three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 2/4. The vocal lines are written in treble clef. The piano accompaniment is written in grand staff (treble and bass clefs). A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

21

rains, soft rain. _____

rains, soft rain. _____

rains, soft rain. _____

The musical score for measures 21-24 consists of three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The time signature changes from 2/4 to 4/4 at measure 21. The vocal lines are written in treble clef. The piano accompaniment is written in grand staff (treble and bass clefs). A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

25 27

poco rit. *a tempo*

Rob-ins will wear their

poco rit. *a tempo*

Rob-ins will wear their

poco rit. *a tempo*

28

feath - er - y fire, on a low fence wire.

feath - er - y fire, Not

whis-ting 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

it is done. Not
 it is done. Not
 it is done. Not

poco rit. *mf*
poco rit. *mf*
poco rit. *mf*

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

decresc. *poco rit.*

46

a tempo *poco rit.* *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

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

48

49

rains. _____ Come soft rains. _____

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

rains. _____ Come soft rains. _____

52

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

59

_____ soft rain,

Soft rain, _____

rain, _____ soft

62

decresc. *rit.* *p*

rain, _____ soft

decresc. *rit.* *p*

rain, _____ soft

decresc. *rit.* *p*

rain, _____ soft

decresc. *rit.* *p*

66

a tempo e decresc. *rit.*

rain. _____

a tempo e decresc. *rit.*

rain. _____

a tempo e decresc. *rit.*

rain _____

a tempo e decresc. *rit.* *pp*