

# THERE WILL COME SOFT RAINS

for S.A.B. 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 *poco rit.* 5 *a tempo* *mp*  
and —

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

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

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

\* 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.*

*poco rit.*

*poco rit.*

*poco rit.*

trem - u - lous

white.

There will

trem - u - lous

white.

trem - u - lous

white.

15

*a tempo*

*a tempo*

*a tempo*

*a tempo*

come soft rains,

soft rains.

There will come soft rains,

soft

Come soft rains.

Come soft

Come soft rains.

Come soft

18

rains. \_\_\_\_\_ There will come soft rains, soft rains, \_\_\_\_\_ soft

rains. \_\_\_\_\_ Come soft rains, \_\_\_\_\_ soft

rains. \_\_\_\_\_ Come soft rains, \_\_\_\_\_ soft

21

rains, soft rain. \_\_\_\_\_

rains, soft rain. \_\_\_\_\_

rains, soft rain. \_\_\_\_\_

25

*poco rit.* 27 *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, Not

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

whis-ting their \_whims on a low fence wire.

31

one will know of war, not one will care at last when  
None will know, will care at last when  
will care at last when

The musical score for measures 31-33 is written for voice and piano. It features a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 2/4 time signature. The vocal lines are in the upper staves, and the piano accompaniment is in the lower staves. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

34

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

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

The musical score for measures 34-36 continues the piece. It maintains the key signature of three sharps and the 2/4 time signature. The vocal lines show a change in dynamics and tempo, with markings for *poco rit.* and *mf*. The piano accompaniment also includes a *poco rit.* marking. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

37

*a tempo*

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

*a tempo*

*mf*

if man - kind per - ished

*a tempo*

*a tempo*  
*mf*

40

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, —

*mf*  
and Spring her - self, when she a - woke\_ at dawn, would

43

*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.*

scarce-ly know \_\_\_\_\_ that we were gone, that we were

*decresc.* *poco rit.*

46

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

gone. There will come soft rains, soft

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

gone. Come soft

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

gone. Come soft

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

49

Musical score for measures 49-51. It consists of three systems. The first system has a vocal line with lyrics: "rains. \_\_\_\_\_ There will come soft rains, soft rains. \_\_\_\_\_ There will". The second system has a vocal line with lyrics: "rains. \_\_\_\_\_ Come soft rains. \_\_\_\_\_". The third system has a vocal line with lyrics: "rains. \_\_\_\_\_ Come soft rains. \_\_\_\_\_". The piano accompaniment is in the key of A major (three sharps) and 4/4 time, featuring chords and a moving bass line.

52

Musical score for measures 52-54. It consists of three systems. The first system has a vocal line with lyrics: "come soft rains, soft rains, \_\_\_\_\_ soft rains, \_\_\_\_". The second system has a vocal line with lyrics: "Come soft rains, \_\_\_\_\_ soft rains,". The third system has a vocal line with lyrics: "Come soft rains, \_\_\_\_\_ soft rains,". The piano accompaniment continues in the key of A major and 4/4 time, with some measures changing to 2/4 time.

55

58

Musical score for measures 55-58. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It features three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "soft rain, \_\_\_\_\_ Soft rain, \_\_\_\_\_". The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note melody in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand.

59

Musical score for measures 59-62. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It features three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "rain, \_\_\_\_\_ soft rain, \_\_\_\_\_". The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note melody in the right hand and supporting bass line in the left hand.

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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*