

The Oxen

Words by Thomas Hardy
Music by Jonathan Rathbone

Andante Misterioso (♩ = 104)

pp

SOPRANO

Christ - mas eve, and twelve of the

ALTO

Christ - mas eve, and twelve of the

TENOR

pp *poco* *sim.*

BASS

pp *poco* *sim.*

* oo oo oo oo

8

S

clock. "Now they are all on their knees" An el - der said as we sat in a

A

clock. "Now they are all on their knees" An el - der said as we sat in a

T

oo oo An el - der said as we sat in a

B

oo oo An el - der said as we sat in a

poco cresc

16

S

flock By the em-bers in hearth-side ease. We pic-tured the

A

flock By the em-bers in hearth-side ease. We pic-tured the

T

flock By the em-bers in hearth-side ease. oo oo We pic-tured the

B

flock By the em-bers in hearth-side ease. oo oo We pic-tured the

p *mp* *poco* *mp*

* oo is pronounced [u:] to rhyme with you

Poco rall. ten.

50

S Eve, "Come; see the ox - en kneel, In the lone - ly bar - ton by *p*

A Eve, "Come; see the ox - en kneel, In the lone - ly bar - ton by *p*

T Eve, "Come; see the ox - en kneel, In the lone - ly bar - ton by *p*

B Eve, "Come; see the ox - en kneel, In the lone - ly bar - ton by *p*

57

S yon - der coomb Our child-hood used to know," I should go *pp* poco cresc

A yon - der coomb Our child - hood used to know," I should go *pp* poco cresc

T yon - der coomb Our child-hood used to know," I should go *pp* poco cresc

B yon - der coomb Our child-hood used to know," I should go *pp* poco cresc

64

S with him in the gloom, Hop - ing it might be so. *poco* *pp*

A with him in the gloom, Hop - ing it might be so. *poco* *pp*

T with him in the gloom, Hop - ing it might be so. *poco* *pp*

B with him in the gloom, Hop - ing it might be so. *poco* *pp*