



Shadows over a cradle...

for SSAA choir

Melissa Dunphy
Text by Lola Ridge

3 min

2015

Commissioned for Ancora by the Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir, Robert Geary Director.

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Robert Geary Director.

(Shadows over a cradle...
fire-light craning...
A hand
throws something in the fire
and a smaller hand
runs into the flame and out again,
singed and empty...
Shadows
settling over a cradle...
two hands
and a fire.)

—From *Sun-Up* by Lola Ridge (1920)



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Shadows over a cradle...

Lyrics by Lola Ridge

Melissa Dunphy

$\text{♩} = 50$

Soprano 1
p Sha-dows, sha-dows o - ver a cra - dle, sha-dows o - ver a,

Soprano 2
p Sha-dows, *fpp* tsss, *fpp* tsss

Alto 1
pp Hmm, hmm, o - ver a *p*

Alto 2
pp Hmm, hmm, o - ver a, *p*

(ossia in brackets)

5

S1
p sha-dows, *poco un poco cresc.* tsss sha-dows o-ver a, sha-dows, sha-dows o - ver a cra- dle, —

S2
p Sha-dows, sha-dows, *poco un poco cresc.* sha-dows o-ver a cra-dle, sha-dows, *fp* tsss

A1
poco un poco cresc. cra - dle, a cra - dle, a cra - dle, sha-dows, sha-dows, *p* tsss

A2
fpp tsss, *p* a cra-dle, *fp* tsss, *p* sha-dows, sha-dows

Shadows over a cradle...

2 9

S1 *mf*
sha-dows, fire light, sha dows, sha-dows o - ver a, sha-dows,

S2 *mf*
Fire - - light cran - ing... Sha-dows, sha-dows, sha-dows,

A1 *mp* *mf* *fp* *mf*
sha-dows, sha-dows, sha-dows o - ver a, tsss sha-dows

A2 *mf*
o - ver a cra-dle, a cra - dle, a cra - dle, a cra - dle, a

13

S1 *f* *legato*
sha-dows o - ver a cra-dle, sha- dows, sha-dows o - ver a cra- dle,

S2 *f* *legato*
sha-dows o - ver a cra-dle, sha-dows, sha-dows o - ver a cra-dle, sha-dows,

A1 *f*
o - ver a, ha sha-dows,

A2 *f*
cra- dle, ha

17

S1 *ff* *mp*
fire - light cran - ing... A hand throws

S2 *ff*
fire - light cran - ing... Sha-dows, sha-dows o - ver a cra- dle...

A1 *ff* *mp*
fire- light cran - ing... A hand throws

A2 *ff*
fire - light cran - ing... A hand

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22

S1
some-thing in the fire, some-thing in the fire, some-thing in the fire,

S2
mp
some-thing in the fire, some-thing in the fire, some-thing in the

A1
some-thing in the fire, some-thing in the fire, some-thing in the fire,

A2
mp
some-thing in the fire, some-thing in the fire, the

25

S1
some-thing in the fire, some-thing in the fire, some-thing in the fire, and a smal-ler hand

S2
fire, some-thing in the fire, some-thing in the fire, and a smal-ler hand

A1
some-thing in the fire, some-thing in the fire, the fire, and a smal-ler hand

A2
fire, some-thing in the fire, the fire, and a smal-ler hand

29

S1
runs in - to the flame, some-thing in the fire, runs in - to the

S2
runs in - to the flame, some-thing in the fire, runs in - to the

A1
runs in - to the flame and out a - gain, runs in - to the flame and

A2
runs in - to the flame and out a - gain, runs in - to the flame and

Shadows over a cradle...

4 32

S1
flame and out a - gain, in - to the flame and out a - gain out _____ a -

S2
flame, some-thing in the fire, and out a - gain, and out a - gain_ out _____ a -

A1
out a - gain, runs in - to the flame and out a - gain, and out a - gain, out _____ a -

A2
out a - gain, runs in - to the flame and out a - gain, and out a - gain, out _____ a -

37

S1
p gain singed, _____ singed, _____ *pp* singed _____

S2
fp gain tsss _____ *fp* tsss _____ *pp* singed _____

A1
p gain, singed, _____ singed, _____ *pp* singed _____ *p* and

A2
p gain, singed, _____ singed, _____ *pp* singed _____

46

S1
p Shad - ows, sha - dows o - ver a cra - dle, sha - dows

S2
p Shad - ows, sha - dows o - ver a cra - dle, sha - dows,

A1
emp - ty. _____ sha - dows o - ver a cra - dle, sha - dows,

A2
p Sha - dows, set - tling o - ver a, sha - dows, sha - dows

50

S1 *mf*
set - tling o - ver a cra- dle... two

S2 *mf*
sha-dows, sha-dows set - tling o - ver a cra- dle... two

A1 *mf*
sha-dows set - tling o - ver a cra- dle, sha-dows set - tling o - ver a

A2 *mf*
set - tling o - ver a cra- dle, sha-dows set - tling o - ver a cra- dle, a

54

S1 *pp*
hands _____ sha- dows, sha- dows, sha- dows.

S2 *fpp*
hands _____ tsss _____

A1 *p*
cra - dle, a cra - dle... and a fire. _____

A2 *p*
cra - dle, a cra - dle... and a fire. _____