



# The Fairies

Walter E. Macfarren  
(1828-1905)

**Walter Cecil Macfarren** (1826–1905) was in London, the younger brother of one of the leading Victorian composers, George Alexander Macfarren. He was a chorister at Westminster Abbey and sang at Queen Victoria’s coronation. He had thoughts of becoming an artist, taking lessons in painting, but entered the Royal Academy of Music, studying the pianoforte and composition. He became a sub-professor of the pianoforte and was on the staff of the Royal Academy fifty-seven years. Macfarren was musical critic for the ‘Queen’ newspaper from 1862 until his death. He was chiefly concerned with teaching the piano and had some distinction as a conductor. He suffered from weak eyesight, but did not become totally blind, as did his brother. He composed many small pianoforte pieces and choral works, including two church services and many part-songs. He wrote no large-scale choral or dramatic works and wrote only a limited amount of orchestral music.

Up the airy mountain,  
Down the rushy glen, [1]  
We daren’t go a-hunting  
For fear of little men;  
Wee folk, good folk,  
Trooping all together;  
Green jacket, red cap,  
And white owl’s feather! [2]

Down along the rocky shore  
Some make their home,  
They live on crispy pancakes  
Of yellow tide-foam;  
Some in the reeds  
Of the black mountain lake,  
With frogs for their watch-dogs,  
All night awake.

By the craggy hill-side,  
Through the mosses bare,  
They have planted thorn-trees  
For pleasure here and there.  
If any man so daring  
As dig them up in spite,  
He shall find the thornies set [3]  
In his bed at night.

William Allingham (1824-1889)

Differences in the poem between the Novello score and “The Oxford Book of English Verse: 1250–1900” (1919):

1.

Oxford edition: “rushy”

Novello score: “rocky”

2.

Oxford edition: “white owl’s”

Novello score: “grey-cock’s”

3.

Novello score: “He shall find the thornies set”

Oxford edition: “He shall find their sharpest thorns”

# The Fairies

W. C. Macfarren

Vivace ♩ = 144

S *p* Up the air - y moun - tain, Down the rush - y glen, We

A *p* Up the air - y moun - tain, Down the rush - y glen, We

T *p* Up the air - y moun - tain, Down the rush - y glen, We

B *p* Up the air - y moun - tain, Down the rush - y glen, We

S <sup>4</sup> dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men; We

A dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men;

T dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men;

B dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men;

## The Fairies

8

S dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men; We

A dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men; We

T dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men; We

B dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men; For

12

S dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men;

A dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men;

T dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For lit - tle men;

B fear, \_\_\_\_\_ for fear of lit - tle men;

16

S Wee folk, good folk, Troop - ing all to - geth - er; all to -

A Wee folk, good folk, Troop - ing all to - geth - er; all to -

T Wee folk, good folk, Troop - ing all to - geth - er; all to -

B Wee folk, good folk, Troop - ing all to - geth - er; all to -

# The Fairies

20

S  
geth - er; Green jack - et, red cap, And white owl's feath - er! \_\_\_\_

A  
geth - er; Green jack - et, red cap, And white owl's feath - er! \_\_\_\_

T  
geth - er; Green jack - et, red cap, And white owl's feath - er! \_\_\_\_

B  
geth - er; Green jack - et, red cap, And white owl's feath - er! \_\_\_\_

24

S  
*f* Wee folk, good folk, Troop - ing all to - geth - er, Troop - ing,

A  
*f* Wee folk, good folk, Troop - ing all to - geth - er, Troop - ing,

T  
*f* Wee folk, good folk, Troop - ing all to - geth - er, Troop - ing,

B  
*f* Wee folk, good folk, Troop - ing all to - geth - er, Troop - ing,

28

S  
*cresc.* troop - ing all to - geth - er, troop - ing all to - geth - er;

A  
*cresc.* troop - ing all to - geth - er, troop - ing all to - geth - er;

T  
*cresc.* troop - ing all to - geth - er, troop - ing all to - geth - er;

B  
*cresc.* troop - ing all to - geth - er, troop - ing all to - geth - er;

## The Fairies

32 *p*

S Down a - long the rock - y shore Some — make their home, They

A Down a - long the rock - y shore Some — make their home, They

T Down — a - long the rock - y shore; They

B Down — a - long the rock - y shore Some make their

36 *f*

S live on crisp - y pan - cakes Of yel - low tide - foam; Some —

A live on crisp - y pan - cakes Of yel - low tide - foam;

T live on crisp - y pan - cakes Of yel - low tide - foam;

B home, They live on pan - cakes Of yel - low tide - foam;

40

S — in the reeds Of the black moun - tain lake, With

A Some in the reeds Of the — black moun - tain lake, With

T Some in the reeds Of the black moun - tain lake, With

B Some in the reeds Of the black moun - tain lake, With

# The Fairies

44

S frogs for their watch - dogs, All night a - wake. By \_\_\_\_\_ *p* >

A frogs for their watch - dogs, All night a - wake.

T frogs for their watch - dogs, All night a - wake. By \_\_\_\_\_ *p* >

B frogs \_\_\_\_\_ for watch - dogs, All a - wake.

48

S *staccato* the crag - gy hill - side, Through the mos - ses \_\_\_\_\_ bare, They have

A *p* *staccato* By the crag - gy hill - side, Through the mos - ses \_\_\_\_\_ bare, They have

T *staccato* the crag - gy hill - side, Through the mos - ses bare, They have

B *p* *staccato* By the crag - gy hill - side, Through the mos - ses bare, They have

52

S plant - ed thorn - trees, thorn \_\_\_\_\_ trees For plea - sure, thorn trees here and there. If

A plant - ed thorn - trees, thorn \_\_\_\_\_ trees For plea - sure, thorn trees here and there. If

T plant - ed thorn - trees, thorn trees here and there. If

B plant - ed thorn - trees here and there. If

## The Fairies

56 *cresc. poco a poco*

S an - y man so dar - ing As dig them up in spite, He shall

A an - y man so dar - ing As dig them up in spite, He shall

T an - y man so dar - ing As dig them up in spite, He

B an - y man so dar - ing As dig them up in spite, He

*cresc. poco a poco*

*cresc. poco a poco*

*cresc. poco a poco*

60 *f* *sempre f*

S find the thorn - ies In his bed, He \_\_\_ shall \_\_\_

A find the thorn - ies In his bed,

T shall find \_\_\_ the thorn - ies In his bed, He \_\_\_ shall \_\_\_

B shall find \_\_\_ the thorn - - - ies set

64 *f*

S find \_\_\_ the \_\_\_ thorn - ies set \_\_\_ In his bed at night.

A In his bed at night.

T find \_\_\_ the \_\_\_ thorn - ies set \_\_\_ In his bed at night.

B In his bed at night.



# The Fairies

68 *p*

S Up the air - y moun - tain, Down the rush - y glen, We

A Up the air - y moun - tain, Down the rush - y glen, We

T Up the air - y moun - tain, Down the rush - y glen, We

B *p* Up the air - y moun - tain, Down the rush - y glen, We

72

S dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men; No, no, We

A dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men;

T dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men;

B dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men;

76

S dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men; We

A dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men; We

T dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men; We

B dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear of lit - tle men; We

## The Fairies

80

S dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear, We dare - n't go, We dare - n't

A dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear, We dare - n't go, We dare - n't

T dare - n't go a - hunt - ing For fear, We dare - n't go, We dare - n't

B daren't go a - hunt - ing For fear, We go, We dare - n't

*cresc.*

84

S go, We dare - n't go, For lit - tle men; All to -

A go, We dare - n't go, For lit - tle men; Yes, All to -

T go, We dare - n't go, For lit - tle men; Yes, All to -

B go, We dare - n't go, For lit - tle men; Yes, All to -

*Più animato al fine*

*f*

87

S geth - er troop - ing, Troop - ing all to - geth - er, all to -

A geth - er troop - ing, Troop - ing all to - geth - er, all to -

T geth - er troop - ing, Troop - ing all to - geth - er, all to -

B geth - er troop - ing, Troop - ing all to - geth - er, all to -

# The Fairies

90

S  
geth - er, lit - tle, lit - tle, lit - tle, lit - tle men!

A  
geth - er, lit - tle, lit - tle, lit - tle, lit - tle men!

T  
geth - er, lit - tle, lit - tle, lit - tle, lit - tle men!

B  
geth - er, lit - tle, lit - tle, lit - tle, lit - tle men!

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