

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

Rilla Paterson 1995

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day is a traditional Old English carol, thought to date from Medieval times and to derive from the Cornish Mystery Plays.

The verses of the hymn, originally very numerous, progress through the story of Christ told in his own voice, with episodes being characterised as a dance, an idea that reappears in the modern hymn Lord of the Dance.

Many of the original verses have now been dropped and this arrangement features only the first four. It was set in four-part harmony in 1995 and dedicated to Chris Weaver and Andrew Day in recognition of their outstanding contribution to the musical life of Rickmansworth School, Herts, UK.

*It was later recorded and illustrated for YouTube in May 2020:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sxu19gq2fwk>.*

*The recording artists are Josh Cooter (tenor) and Bethany Partridge (soprano).
Scores can be downloaded free from Rilla Paterson's website:
<https://rillapaterson.com>.*

Home-made music played an important part in the life of the nation during the Covid-19 lockdown, and the song's revival at that time served as a reminder that even in the face of adversity, singing and dancing will always be part of the human condition.

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

for C Weaver and A Day, in recognition of their outstanding contribution to the musical life of Rickmansworth School

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Trad. **Con brio** ♩ = 96 **mp**

SOPRANO 1. To- **mp**

ALTO 1. To- **mp**

TENOR 1. To- **mp**

BASS 1. To- **mp**

Piano **mf** **Con brio** ♩ = 96 **mp**

7

cresc.

mor-row shall be my danc-ing day, to - mor-row shall be my danc-ing day, I would my true love

cresc.

mor-row shall be my danc-ing day, to - mor-row shall be my danc-ing day, I would my true love

cresc.

mor-row shall be my danc-ing day, to - mor-row shall be my danc-ing day, I would my true love

cresc.

mor-row shall be my danc-ing day, to - mor-row shall be my danc-ing day, I would my true love

cresc.

love. 2. Then was I born of a vir-gin pure, of her_ I took

love. 2. Then was I born of a vir-gin pure, of her_ I took

love. 2. Then was I born of a vir-gin pure, of her_ took

love. 2. Then was I born of a vir-gin pure, of her I took

cresc.
fleshly sub-stance, Thus was I knit to man's na-ture, to call my true love to my dance, To

cresc.
fleshly sub-stance, Thus was I knit to man's na-ture, to call my true love to my dance, To

cresc.
fleshly sub-stance, Thus was I knit to man's na-ture, to call my true love to my dance, To

cresc.
fleshly sub-stance, Thus was I knit to man's na-ture, to call my true love to my dance, To

cresc.

f
 call my true love to my dance, Sing, O my love, sing

f
 call my true love to my dance, Sing, sing O my love, sing

f
 call my true love to my dance, Sing, O my love, sing

f
 call my true love to my dance, Sing, O my love, sing

mp
 O my love my love, This have I done for my true love.

mp
 O my love my love, This have I done for my true love.

mp
 O my love, This have I done for my true love.

mp
 O my love my love, This have I done for my true love.

52

p *legato* *cresc.*

3. In man - ger laid and wrap - ped I was, so ve - ry poor this — was my chance, 'twixt ox and sil - ly

P *legato* *cresc.*

3. In man - ger laid and wrap - ped I was, so ve - ry poor this — was my chance, 'twixt ox and sil - ly

p *legato* *cresc.*

3. In man - ger laid and wrap - ped I was, so ve - ry poor this — was my chance, 'twixt ox and sil - ly

P *legato* *cresc.*

3. In man - ger laid and wrap - ped I was, so ve - ry poor this — was my chance, 'twixt ox and sil - ly

legato *cresc.*

58

mp

poor ass, to call my true love to my dance, To call — my — true love to — my —

mp

poor ass, to call my true love to my dance, To call — my — true love to — my —

mp

poor ass, to call my true love to my dance, To call — my — true love to — my —

mp

poor ass, to call my true love to my dance, To call — my — true love to — my —

mp

65 *mf*

dance, Sing, O my love, sing O my love my love, This have I done for my true

mf

dance, Sing, sing O my love, sing O my love my love, This have I done for my true

mf

dance, Sing, O my love, sing O my love, This have I done for my true

mf

dance, Sing, O my love, sing O my love my love, This have I done for my true

72

love.

love.

love.

love.

cresc.

f
4. Then af - ter - wards bap-tised I was, On

f
4. Then af - ter-wards bap tised I was, the Ho - ly Ghost on

f
4. Then af - ter - wards bap - tised I

f
4. Then af - ter - wards bap - tised I

me did glance the Ho - ly Ghost; My fa - ther's voice heard from a -

me did glance, the Ho - ly ghost on me did glance, My fa - ther's voice heard from a - bove, To

was, My fa - thers' voice called from a - bove, To

was, My fa - ther's voice called from a - bove, To

bove, To call, my true love to my dance Sing O my love, sing

call my true love to my dance, Sing, sing O my love, sing

call, to call my true love to my dance, Sing, O my love,

call, to call my true love to my dance, Sing, O my love,

ff

O my love my love, This have I done for my true love!

O my love my love, This have I done for my true love!

sing O my love, This have I done for my true love!

sing O my love, This have I done for my true love!

ff