

SONG OF THE ALL-WOOL SHIRT

For SATB Chorus and Piano

Lyrics by Eugene Field (1850-1895)

Music by Bruce Trinkley

SONG OF THE ALL-WOOL SHIRT

*My father bought an undershirt
Of bright and flaming red,
“All wool, I'm ready to assert,
Fleece-dyed,” the merchant said;
“Your size is thirty-eight, I think;
A forty you should get,
Since all-wool goods are bound to shrink
A trifle when they're wet.”*

*That shirt two weeks my father wore,
Two washings, that was all;
From forty down to thirty-four
It shrank like leaf in fall.
I wore it then a day or two,
But when 'twas washed again
My wife said, “Now 't will only do
For little brother Ben.”*

*A fortnight Ben squeezed into it;
At last he said it hurt.
We put it on our babe, the fit
Was good as any shirt.
We ne'er will wash it more while yet
We see its flickering light,
For if again that shirt is wet
'T will vanish from our sight.*

Song of the All-Wool Shirt

For SATB Chorus, Two Solo Voices and Piano

Eugene Field (1850-1895)

from *Sharps and Flats*

Bruce Trinkley

Andante con umore $\text{♩} = 92$

Piano *f* *simile*

solo tenor or baritone *mf*

sop/alto *mf*

tenor/bass *mf*

My fa - ther bought an un - der-shirt Of bright and flam - ing red, _____

My fa - ther bought an un - der-shirt Of bright and flam - ing red, _____

"All

The musical score is written for SATB Chorus, Two Solo Voices, and Piano. It begins with a piano introduction in D major, 6/8 time, marked 'Andante con umore' with a tempo of 92 beats per minute. The piano part features a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, with dynamics ranging from forte (f) to simile. The vocal parts enter with the lyrics 'My father bought an under-shirt Of bright and flaming red, _____'. The soprano and alto parts are marked 'mf' and the tenor and bass parts are also marked 'mf'. The score includes a repeat sign and a fermata over the final measure of the vocal parts.

Note: The story will be enhanced if four red undershirts are used, sizes 40, 34, small and infant.

10
8
wool, I'm read - y to as - sert, Fleece-dyed," "Your size is thir - ty -

p *mp* *p*

Oo the mer - chant said; Oo

p *mp* *p*

Oo the mer - chant said; Oo

p *mp* *p*

Oo the mer - chant said; Oo

p *mp* *p*

Oo the mer - chant said; Oo

10
8
eight, I think; a for - ty you should get, Since all - wool goods are bound to shrink A

p *mp* *p*

15
8
eight, I think; a for - ty you should get, Since all - wool goods are bound to shrink A

p *mp* *p*

15
8
eight, I think; a for - ty you should get, Since all - wool goods are bound to shrink A

p *mp* *p*

20

tri - fle when they're wet."

mf A tri - fle when they're wet."

p A tri - fle when they're wet."

mf That shirt two weeks my fa - ther wore, Two

mf That shirt two weeks my fa - ther wore, Two

20

24

mf From for - ty down to thir - ty - four It shrank like leaf in

mf From for - ty down to thir - ty - four It shrank like leaf in

8 wash - ings, that was all; _____

div. wash - ings, that was all; _____

24

mp

29

fall. _____

fall. _____

I wore it then a day or two, But when 'twas washed a -

I wore it then a day or two, But when 'twas washed a -

29

33 *solo soprano or alto mf*

"Now 'twill on - ly do For lit - tle bro - ther Ben." _____ *mf*

mf^A

mf^A

^A

gain _____ My wife said,

gain _____ My wife said,

33

38 *f*

fort - night Ben squeezed in - to it; At last he said it hurt. _____ We put it on our

fort - night Ben squeezed in - to it; At last he said it hurt. _____ We put it on our

We put it on our

We put it on our

38 *mf* *f*

43 *pp* **Andante espressivo** ♩ = 60

babe, the fit Was good as an - y shirt. _____ We ne'er will wash it more while yet We

babe, the fit Was good as an - y shirt. _____ We ne'er will wash it more while yet We

babe, the fit Was good as an - y shirt. _____ We ne'er will wash it more while yet We

babe, the fit Was good as an - y shirt. _____ We ne'er will wash it more while yet We

43 *pp* **Andante espressivo** ♩ = 60

piano optional

47 *cresc.* *rit.* *mf* *molto allarg.*

see its flick - 'ring light, For if a - gain that shirt is wet 'Twill van - ish from our

see its flick - 'ring light, For if a - gain that shirt is wet 'Twill van - ish from our

see its flick - 'ring light, For if a - gain that shirt is wet 'Twill van - ish from our

see its flick - 'ring light, For if a - gain that shirt is wet 'Twill van - ish from our

47 *cresc.* *mf* *rit.* *molto allarg.*

Tempo primo

50 *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

sight. sight. sight. sight.

Tempo primo

50 *ff*