

Two Christmas Carols for SATB a cappella (2019) EP 73422

St Ita's Lullaby
The Falcon Carol
Texts: James Harpur

St Ita's Lullaby

Hush my sweet Jesus, hush my little lamb
The lamps in Killeedy are flickering to life
Footsteps are failing, the sun's easing down,
Sink into sleep, sleep my little lamb.

Hush my sweet Jesus, hush my little lamb
Streams hug their beds between mossy banks
The straw in the barns is fragrant and warm
Sink into sleep, sleep my little lamb.

Hush my sweet Jesus, hush my little lamb
The wind falls asleep on dark ancient oaks
The moon's dissolving and the night is calm
Sink into sleep, sleep my little lamb.

Hush my sweet Jesus, hush my little lamb
Dream of the angels that drift to the ground
A snowfall of stars until the new dawn.
Sink into sleep, sleep my little lamb.

Hush my sweet Jesus, hush my little lamb
Hush, hush, hush ...

James Harpur

The Falcon Carol

The falcon flew from dark to dark
Drew silver from the Northern Star
And headed for the crinkled hills,
The rivers, lakes and waterfalls
 To find the source of light on earth
 The source of light on earth.

And as three weary pilgrim kings
Looked up and saw his glittering wings
The falcon saw a darkened town
A stable glowing like a crown
 And knew that he had found the truth
 That he had found the truth.

The falcon hovered like a star
His wings spun out a spirit fire
That drew the kings inside the shed:
The child asleep in his straw bed
 Was dreaming of a silver bird
 Was dreaming of a bird.

His task now done, the falcon rose
A spark ablaze with joyful news;
He lit the stars, he lit the moon
Then vanished in the arc of sun
 That dawned beyond the Southern Cross
 Beyond the Southern Cross.

James Harpur