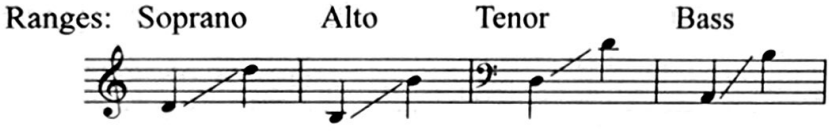
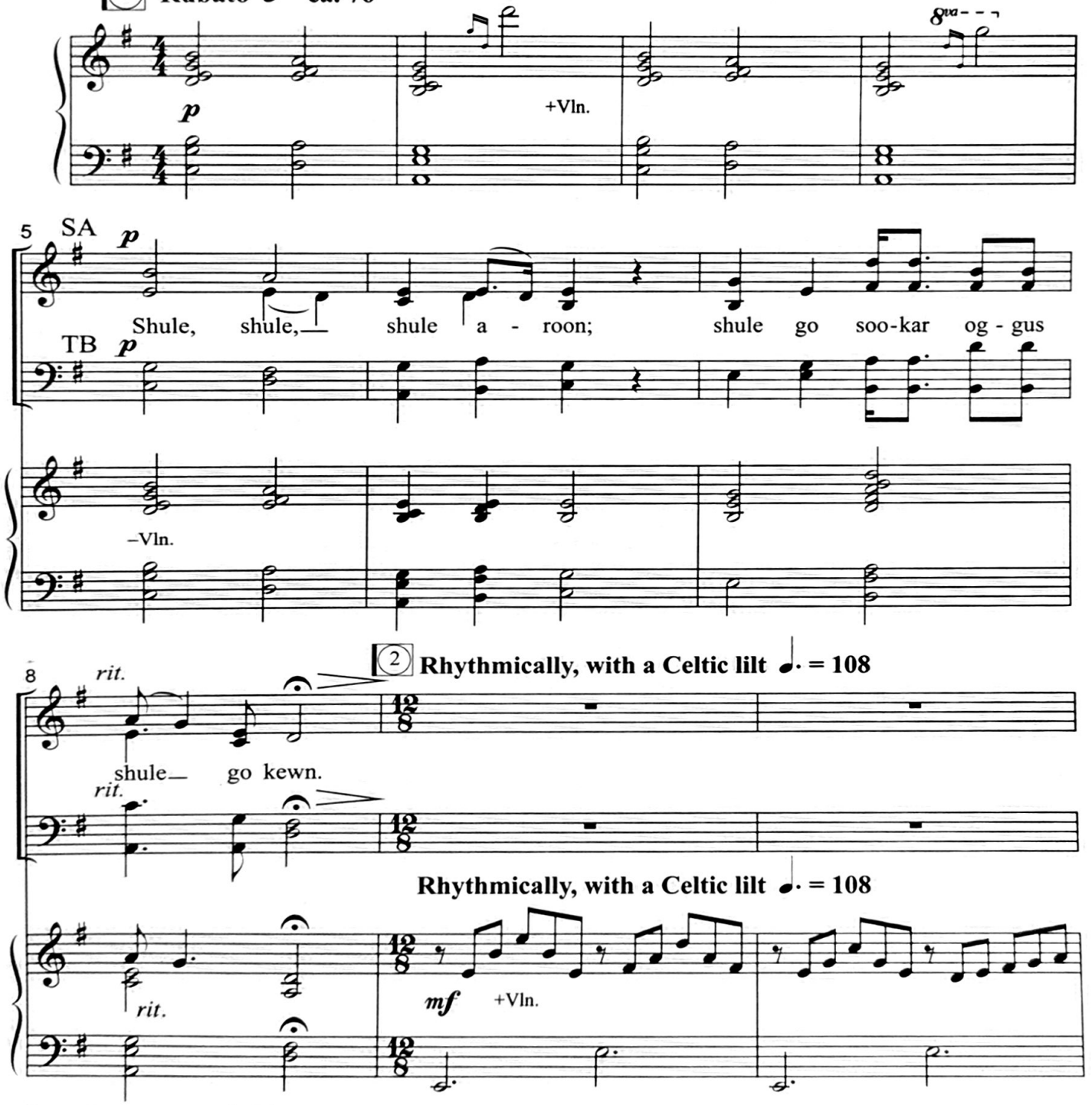
Shule Aroon

SATB Chorus and Piano with optional Violin*

Traditional Irish
Tune: Siúil A Rún
Arranged by Ruth Elaine Schram





Duration: approx. 3:30

*Violin part is available as a free download. Visit www.lorenz.com and search 15/3183H.
Also available: SSA (15/3002H); Performance/Accompaniment CD (99/3052H).

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11

mf

Shule, shule, shule a - roon; shule go soo-kar og - gus

mf

–Vln.

14

shule go kewn. Shule go do - rus og - gus

+Vln.

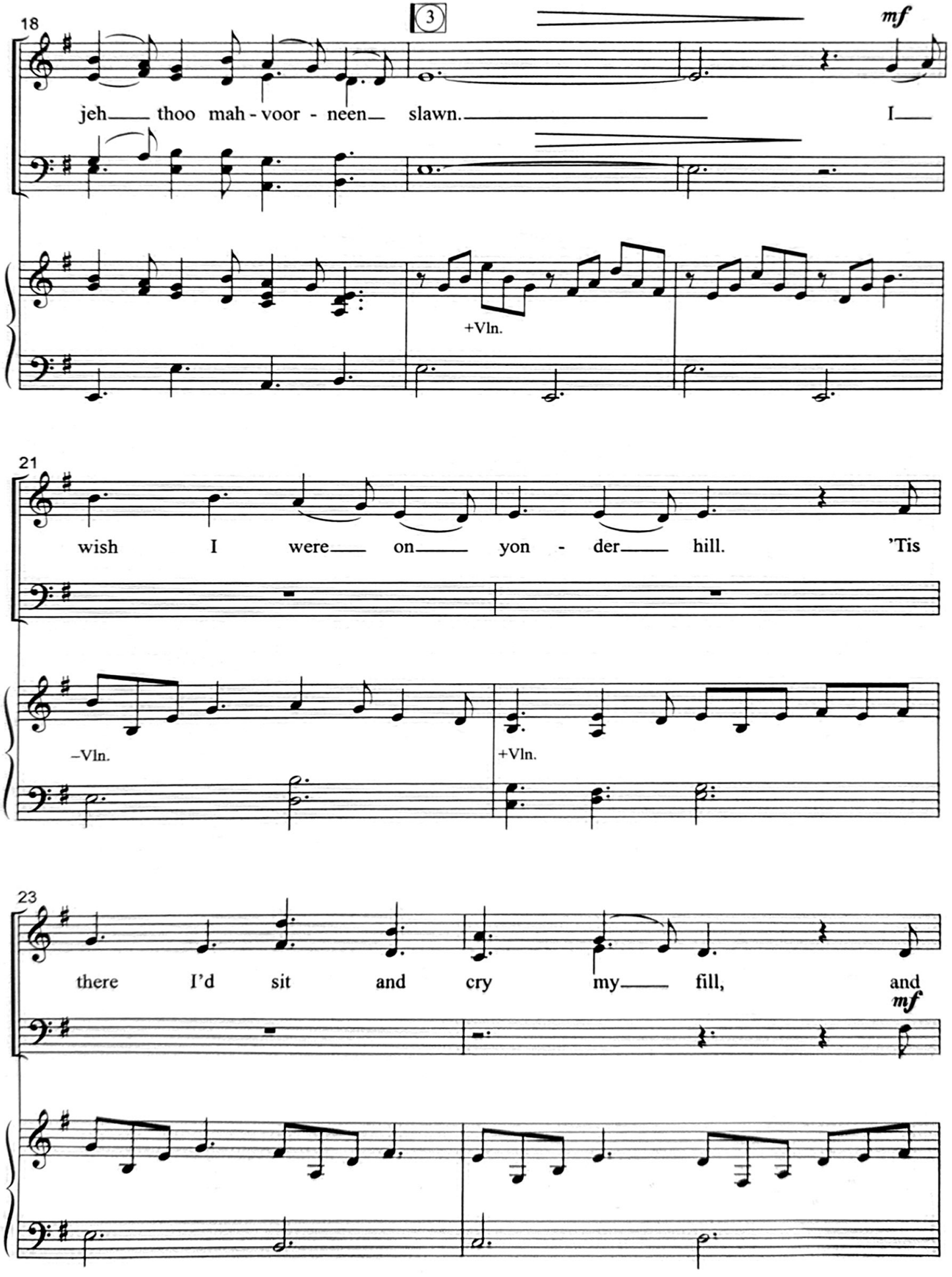
16

mf

eh - lee lom, Iss guh

mf

–Vln.


18
3
mf
jeh thoo mah - voor - neen slawn. I
+Vln.
21
wish I were on yon - der hill. 'Tis
–Vln.
+Vln.
23
there I'd sit and cry my fill, and
mf

25

4

ev - 'ry tear would turn a mill. I'd

–Vln. +Vln. –Vln.

28

sell my rod, I'd sell my reel; I'd sell my on - ly

Oo, Oo,

+Vln.

31

spin - ning wheel, to buy my love a

33

mf

coat of steel. Iss guh

mf

–Vln.

35

5

jeh thoo mah - vohr - neen slawn.

+Vln.

38

f

Shule, shule, shule a - roon; shule go soo-kar og - gus

f

f

–Vln.

41

shule go kewn. Shule go do - rus og - gus

+Vln.

43

mf

eh - lee lom, Iss guh

mf

–Vln.

45

jeh thoo mah - voor - neen slawn.

mf

6

48

mf

I___ wish, I wish,__ I___

mf

+Vln.

–Vln.

51

wish in___ vain; I wish I had my heart a - gain, and

7

54

vain - ly think I'd__ not com - plain.___

+Vln.

57

f

Shule, shule, shule a - roon; shule go soo-kar og - gus

f

f

60

mf

shule go kewn. Shule go do - rus og - gus

mf

mf

–Vln.

62

molto rall.

eh - lee lom, Iss guh

molto rall.

mp

Tempo I ♩= ca. 76

molto rall.

mp

Tempo I ♩= ca. 76

8

65

Tempo II ♩. = 108

jeh thoo mah - voor - neen slawn.

Tempo II ♩. = 108

mf +Vln.

68

f

Shule, shule,

f

f

70

shule a - roon; shule go soo - kar og - gus

9 780787 714376

72

mf

shule go kewn, shule go do - rus og - gus

mf

mf

74 (9) *molto rall.*

Tempo I ♩ = ca. 76

mp

eh - lee lom, Iss guh jeh thoo mah -

molto rall.

mp

Ah,

Tempo I ♩ = ca. 76

molto rall.

mp

–Vln.

78 *rit.*

slawn.

voor - neen ah.

rit.

ah.

rit.

+Vln.

From the Arranger...

The history of the Irish folk song, *Shule Aroon*, is somewhat unclear. It may have originated in the 19th century or perhaps as early as the 17th century, but, as is typical of the genre, it appears in many versions and even has multiple spellings of its title.

It is usually sung from the point of view of a woman lamenting a lover who has joined the military. It describes her torment of being supportive and understanding of his decision despite her fear of losing him in battle. It could also refer to the loss of a man who has chosen exile rather than being forced to fight in the army.

The chorus is a blessing, with the last line often translated "*...and a blessing walk with you, my love.*" The title may be translated as "Go, My Love" or "Walk! My Dear," each indicating the singer's strong support of her lover's decision despite her understandable concern for his safe return. Here is one translation of the chorus:

Come, come, come, my love,
Quickly come to me, softly move,
Come to the door and away we'll flee,
And safe forever may my darling be.

It is not uncommon for Irish folk songs to have survived utilizing a mixture of languages, with the verses being in English and the chorus in Gaelic. There are many sounds in the Gaelic dialect that do not have an English equivalent. The Gaelic portion of the text in this arrangement has been written phonetically, but some sounds require further explanation as described below:

Shule aroon;
Shule go sookar oggus shule go kewn.
sookar – "oo" as in *book.*
oggus – sounds much like *August* (without the final *t*).
kewn – the vowel sound is placed toward the front of the mouth, as if saying a long *e* with the lips forming an *oo*.
Shule go dorus oggus ehlee lom,
dorus – the *o* is between a long *o* and a short *u.*
ehlee – the first *e* is between a long *e* and a short *a.*
lom – the *o* is between a short *o* and a short *u.*
Iss guh jeh thoo mahvohrneen slawn.
jeh – the starting consonant is between a *j* and a hard *ch* sound.
thoo – the *th* is between our hard *th* and a hard *t* sound, as if saying a *th* but placing the tongue where you would say a *t.*

With a little practice, these sounds will become easy to produce and allow for an authentic presentation of this memorable Irish folk song. Have fun!

...Ruth Elaine Schram