

Thula Baba

An African Lullaby

(SATB, Children's Choir or Soloist, a cappella)

Traditional Zulu
Arr. by Allan Robert Petker

African*

Thula thul', thula baba, thula sana;
Thul' u bab'uzo fika, eku seni. (repeat)
Kukh' 'in kanyezi, ziholel' u baba,
Zimkhan yisela indlel'e ziyekhaya,
Sobesikhona xa bonke beshoyo,
Bethi buyela ubuye lekhaya.
Thula thula thula baba,
Thula thula thula sana,
Thula thula thula baba,
Thula thula thula sana.

English (Translation by Thandeka Ndyawe)

Keep quiet, my child.
Keep quiet, my baby. (repeat)
Be quiet, daddy will be back in the morning.
There's a star that will lead him home.
The star will brighten his way home.
The hills and stones are still the same, my love.
My life has changed, yes, my life has changed.
The children grow, but you don't know my love.
(The children grew, but you don't see them grow.)

Tenderly ♩ = 82

The musical score is written for Soprano (Sop.), Alto (Alto), Tenor (Ten.), and Bass (Bass) voices. It is in 4/4 time and features a tempo of 82 beats per minute. The score is divided into two systems. The first system contains measures 1 through 4, and the second system contains measures 5 through 8. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines. A large watermark 'For Review Only' is overlaid on the score.

System 1 (Measures 1-4):

- Sop.:** Rests in measures 1-4.
- Alto:** Rests in measures 1-4.
- Ten.:** Rests in measures 1-2, then enters in measure 3 with the melody. Lyrics: "Thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba." (Measures 3-4)
- Bass:** Enters in measure 1 with the melody. Lyrics: "Thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba. Thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba." (Measures 1-4)

System 2 (Measures 5-8):

- Sop.:** Rests in measures 5-6, then enters in measure 7 with the melody. Lyrics: "Thu-la thul, thu-la ba-ba, thu-la sa - na, — thul' u -" (Measures 7-8)
- Alto:** Enters in measure 5 with the melody. Lyrics: "Thu-la ba - ba, thu-la ba - ba. Thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba." (Measures 5-8)
- Ten.:** Enters in measure 5 with the melody. Lyrics: "Thu-la ba - ba, thu-la ba - ba. Thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba." (Measures 5-8)
- Bass:** Enters in measure 5 with the melody. Lyrics: "Thu-la ba - ba, thu-la ba - ba. Thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba." (Measures 5-8)

* "Th" is pronounced "t," therefore *Thula* is pronounced *toola*. "x" is comparable to a click one may do for a walking horse. For more tips on pronunciation please go to: mylanguages.org/zulu_alphabet.php

P1584

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9 10 11

S. bab' - u - zo - bu - ya e - ku - se - ni. Thu-la thul, thu - la ba - ba, thu - la

A. Thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba. Thu - la ba - ba,

T. Thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba. Thu - la ba - ba,

B. Thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba. Thu - la ba - ba,

12 13 14 *mp*

S. sa - na, thul' u - bab' - u - zo - bu - ya e - ku se ni. Kukh' in

A. thu - la ba - ba. Thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba. Kukh' in

T. thu - la ba - ba. Thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba. Kukh' in

B. thu - la ba - ba. Thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba.

15 16 17

S. khan ye - zi, zi - ho - lel' u ba - ba, zim-khan yi - se - la in dlel' - e

A. khan ye - zi, zi - ho - lel' u ba - ba, zim-khan yi - se - la in dlel' - e

T. khan ye - zi, zi - ho - lel' u ba - ba, zim-khan yi - se - la in dlel' - e

B. *mp* Kukn' in khan ye - zi, zi - ho - lel' u ba - ba, zim-khan yi - se - la in dlel' - e

18 19 20

S. ziyek - ha - ya, so - be - sik - ho - na xa bon - ke be - sho - yo, be - thi

A. ziyek - ha - ya, so - be - sik - ho - na xa bon - ke be - sho - yo, be - thi

T. ziyek - ha - ya, so - be - sik - ho - na xa bon - ke be - sho - yo, be - thi

B. e ziyek - ha - ya, so - be - sik - ho - na xa bon - ke be - sho - yo,

21 22 23

S. bu - ye - la u - bu - ye le kha - ya. Thu - la, thu - la, thu - la

A. bu - ye - la u - bu - ye le kha - ya. Thu - la, thu - la, thu - la

T. bu - ye - la u - bu - ye le kha - ya. Thu - la, thu - la, thu - la

B. be - thi bu - ye - la u - bu - ye le kha - ya. Thu - la, thu - la,

a few select voices

24 *mp* 25 26

S. Thu - la, thu - la ba - ba, thu - la sa - na,

A. ba - ba, thu - la, thu - la, thu - la sa - na,

T. ba - ba, thu - la, thu - la, thu - la sa - na,

B. thu - la ba - ba, thu - la, thu - la, thu - la sa - na.

Children's Choir
or Soloist

27 28 29 30 *mf*

thu - la, thu - la, thu - la, thu - la, thu-la san. Thu-la

S. thu - la, thu - la, thu-la ba - ba, — Thu - la, thu - la, thu-la san.

A. thu - la, thu - la, thu-la ba - ba, — Thu - la, thu - la, thu-la san.

T. thu - la, thu - la, thu-la ba - ba, — Thu - la, thu - la, thu-la san.

B. Thu-la, thu-la, thu-la ba - ba, — Thu - la, thu - la, thu-la san.

31 32 33

thul, thu - la ba - ba, thu - la sa - na, — thul' u - bab' - u - zo - bu - ya e - ku -

mp

S. Thu - la — ba - ba, — thu - la —

mp

A. Thu - la — ba - ba, — thu - la —

mp

T. Thu - la — ba - ba, — thu - la —

mp

B. Thu - la — ba - ba, — thu - la —

34 35 36

se - ni. Thu - la thul, thu - la ba - ba, thu - la sa - na, thul' u -

S. ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba,

A. ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba,

T. ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba,

B. ba - ba, thu - la ba - la,

37 38 39

bab' - u - zo - bu - ya e - ku se - ni. Kukh' in khan ye - zi, zi - ho - lel'

S. thu - la ba - ba, thu - la

A. thu - la ba - ba, thu - la

T. thu - la ba - ba, thu - la

B. thu - la ba - ba, thu - la

40 41 42

u ba - ba, zim-khan yi - se - la in dlel' - e ziyek - ha - ya, so - be -

S. ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba,

A. ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba,

T. ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba,

B. ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba,

(Children / Solo tacet to ms. 72)

43 44 45 46

sik - ho-na xa bon-ke be-sho-yo, be-thi bu - ye-la u-bu-ye le kha-ya.

S. thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba.

A. thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba.

T. thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba.

B. thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba.

47 *pp cresc. poco a poco* 48 49 *p* 50

S. Thu - la, thu - la, thu-la ba - ba, — thu - la, thu - la, thu-la sa - na,

A. *pp cresc. poco a poco* *p*
Thu - la, thu - la, thu-la ba - ba, — thu - la, thu - la, thu-la sa - na,

T. *pp cresc. poco a poco* *p*
Thu - la, thu - la, thu-la ba - ba, — thu - la, thu - la, thu-la sa - na,

B. *pp cresc. poco a poco* *p*
Thu - la, thu - la, thu-la ba - ba, — thu - la, thu - la, thu-la sa - na,

51 *mp* 52 53 *mf* 54 , *f*

S. thu - la, thu - la, thu-la ba - ba, — thu - la, thu - la, thu-la san, thu -

A. *mp* *mf* , *f*
thu - la, thu - la, thu-la ba - ba, — thu - la, thu - la, thu-la san, thu -

T. *mp* *mf* , *f*
thu - la, thu - la, thu-la ba - ba, — thu - la, thu - la, thu-la san, thu -

B. *mp* *mf* , *f*
thu - la, thu - la, thu-la ba - ba, — thu - la, thu - la, thu-la san, thu -

55 56 *mf* 57

S. la - san. Thu - la — ba - ba, —

A. la - san. Thu - la — ba - ba, —

T. la - san. Thu - la — ba - ba, —

B. la - san. *f* Thu-la thul, thu - la ba - ba, thu - la sa - na, — thul' u -

58 59 60 *mf*

S. *mf*
 thu - la ba - ba. Thu-la thul, thu - la ba - ba, thu - la

A. *mp*
 thu - la ba - ba. Thu - la,

T. *mp*
 thu - la ba - ba. Thu - la,

B. *mp*
 bab' - u - zo - bu - ya e - ku se - ni. Thu - la,

61 62 63

S. sa - na, thul' u - bab' - u - zo - bu - ya e ku se - ni. Kukh' in

A. thu - la sa - na, thu - la ba - ba,

T. thu - la sa - na, thu - la ba - ba,

B. thu - la sa - na, thu - la ba - ba,

A.T.B. scoop gently into first note in measures 64-66.

64 65 66

S. khan ye - zi, zi - ho - lel' u ba - ba, zim-khan yi - se - la in dlel' - e

A. thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba, thu - la, thu - la

T. thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba, thu - la, thu - la

B. thu - la ba - ba, thu - la ba - ba, thu - la, thu - la

67 68 69

S. ziyek - ha - ya, so - be - sik - ho - na xa bon-ke be-sho - yo, be - thi

A. sa - na. Thu - la, thu - la sa - na,

T. sa - na. Thu - la, thu - la sa - na,

B. sa - na. Thu - la, thu - la sa - na,

70 71 72 *mp*

S. bu - ye - la u - bu - ye le kha - ya. Thu - la, thu - la, thu - la

A. thu - la sa - na Thu - la, thu - la, thu - la *mp*

T. thu - la sa - na. Thu - la, thu - la

B. thu - la sa - na. Thu - la, thu - la *mp*

Children or Soloist sing with Sopranos

73 74 *p* 75

S. ba - ba, thu - la, thu - la, thu - la sa - na,

A. ba - ba, thu - la, thu - la, thu - la sa - na,

T. ba - ba, thu - la, thu - la sa - na,

B. ba - ba, thu - la, thu - la sa - na,

Children's Choir
or Soloist

76 77 78 79

pp *decresc. poco a poco*

Thu - la, thu - la, thu-la san. _____

th u - la, th u - la, th u - la ba - ba, —

th u - la, th u - la, th u - la ba - ba, —

th u - la, th u - la ba - ba, —

th u - la, th u - la ba - ba, —

th u - la, th u - la ba - ba, —

80 81 82 *rit.* 83

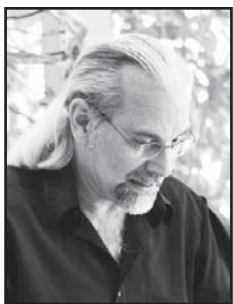
p

th u - la, th u - la san.

th u - la, th u - la san.

th u - la, th u - la, th u - la, th u - la san.

th u - la, th u - la, th u - la, th u - la, th u - la san.



Allan Robert Petker is a composer and arranger with more than 250 published works, including classroom texts on conducting and music literacy. He is the owner of Pavane Publishing, which publishes choral music and college music text books. He also serves as the Vice President of Publications for the Fred Bock Music Company which includes such distinguished catalogs as Gentry Publications, National Music, the H.T. FitzSimons Company and Hinshaw Music.

Allan has been the conductor of Consort Chorale, an ensemble of 50 auditioned voices from the San Francisco Bay area, since 1994. In 2004 he became the Conductor and Artistic Director for the Santa Clarita Master Chorale. In 2015 he added the Los Cancioneros Master Chorale (Torrance, CA) to his conducting portfolio. He has led concert tours to Europe, Eastern Europe, the Baltic region and South America. Internationally, he has guest conducted choirs in England, Korea and France.

Since 1989 Allan has been a coordinator and clinician for two church music conferences at Lake Tahoe, "Summer Sing" and "Tuning @ Tahoe." He remains active as an instrumentalist, primarily on the viola and violin, but also on mandolin and guitar.



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