



Gille Beag ò

Traditional Gaelic Lullaby
Arranged by Robyn Stapleton

Gentle

Tune

The musical score is written for three voices (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor) and a piano accompaniment. It is in 3/4 time and B-flat major. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics in Gaelic. The score is divided into two systems, with the second system starting at measure 9. The lyrics are: Gill - e beag ò Gill - e lag ò Gill - e beag ò nan caor - ach thu. Gill - e nan caor-ach-an Gill - e nan caor-ach-an Gill - e nan caor-ach-an, gaol - ach thu.

I first heard this beautiful Gaelic lullaby on the Scottish Book Trust's Bookbug CD that was sent to me when my oldest daughter was born. I've enjoyed singing it with my children in the years since and teaching it to community singing groups. The beautiful melody and repeating phrases are soothing. It's suitable for all ages and singing abilities and its simplicity and repetition is good for those learning a Gaelic song for the first time.

Submitted by Robyn Stapleton - robystapleton.net

Gille beag ò, gille lag ò
Gille beag ò nan caorach thu

Little boy o, weak boy o
Little boy of the sheep

Gille nan caorachan
Gille nan caorachan
Gille nan caorachan -
Gaolach thu

Boy of the sheep
Boy of the sheep
Boy of the sheep
My darling