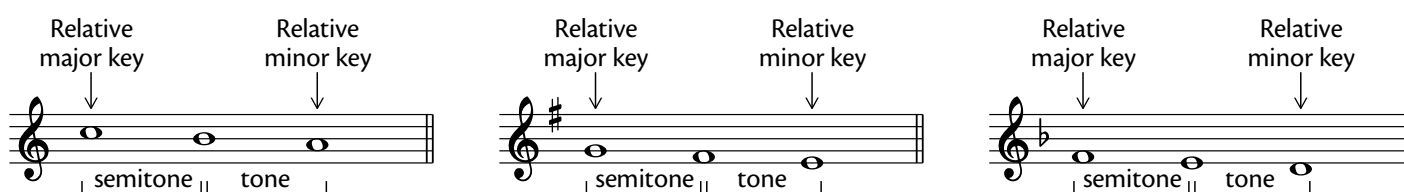




## Minor keys

Every major key has a **relative minor** key that opens up a different sound-world; this is often more melancholy, mysterious, or even menacing in character.

To find the relative minor of any major key, count down a semitone and then a tone from the key note. Conversely, the **relative major** is a tone and a semitone higher than its relative minor.



Originally from a medieval mystery play, the *Coventry Carol* is a lullaby in which Mary sings Jesus to sleep and laments Herod's resolve to kill all babes-in-arms. It is in the key of A minor, the relative minor of C major; thus, no key signature is used, but the accidentals (particularly G sharps) give the minor key its characteristic flavour. Accidentals are not normally written again when a note is tied, so the C sharp (and the A) are simply held on through the final three bars.

**mesto** – sorrowful

- 🎧 track 9 Solo
- 🎧 track 10 Duet

## Coventry Carol

Trad. English

**Andante mesto**