

### Puritan Sonnet

Down to the Puritan marrow of my bones  
There's something in this richness that I hate.

I love the look, austere, immaculate,  
Of landscapes drawn in pearly monotones.  
There's something in my very blood that owns  
Bare hills, cold silver on a sky of slate,  
A thread of water, churned to milky spate  
Streaming through slanted pastures fenced with stones.  
I love those skies, thin blue or snowy gray,  
Those fields sparse-planted, rendering meager sheaves;  
That spring, briefer than apple-blossom's breath,  
Summer, so much too beautiful to stay;  
Swift autumn, like a bonfire of leaves,  
And sleepy winter, like the sleep of death.

Elinor Wylie

# Puritan Sonnet



Words by Elinor Wylie

Music by  
Julian Bisset

**Swift and flexible**  $\text{♩} = 90 \text{ ca.}$       **Broad**  $\text{♩} = 50 \text{ ca.}$

Voice

Piano { *mf*      *rit.*      *rubato*      *p*

Down to the Pu - ri - tan \_\_\_\_\_

mar - row of my bones      There's some-thing \_\_\_\_\_ in this rich-ness that I

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## Puritan Sonnet

3

hate. —

13

I love the look, aus - tere, im - ma - cu - late,

16 rit. f express. p p

Of land - scapes drawn in pear - ly mo - no - tones.

20 mp

There's some - thing in

23 mf mf f rubato

The musical score consists of four systems of music. System 1 (measures 1-12) starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a common time. It features a melodic line in the treble and harmonic support in the bass. Measure 12 ends with a fermata over the bass. System 2 (measures 13-19) begins with a bass clef, a key signature of one flat, and a common time. It includes lyrics: 'I love the look, aus - tere, im - ma - cu - late,' with 'express.' written below the staff. Dynamics include forte (f), piano (p), and ritardando (rit.). System 3 (measures 20-24) continues with a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time. It features a melodic line in the bass with harmonic support. System 4 (measures 25-28) begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time. It includes lyrics: 'Of land - scapes drawn in pear - ly mo - no - tones.' and 'There's some - thing in' followed by a melodic line in the treble. Articulations like rubato are indicated in the final measure.

## Puritan Sonnet

my ve - ry blood

*8va*

that owns

26

Bare hills, cold sil - ver on a sky of slate,

*mp*

29

**Slow tempo flow**

A thread \_\_\_\_\_ of wa - ter,

**a tempo**

churned to mil - ky spate

*accel.*

32

Strea - ming through slan - ted pas - tures fenced with stones.

*allarg.*

35

## Puritan Sonnet

5

I love

*8va*

*f*

those skies, thin blue or

*8va*

*p*

*3*

snow - y gray, Those fields sparse-plan-ted, ren-de-ring mea-ger sheaves;

*(8va)*

*3*

That spring, brie-fer than ap-ple-blos-som's breath,

*48*

## Puritan Sonnet

Summer, so much too beau-ti - ful to stay;

52

Swift au - tumn, like a bon - fire of leaves,

55

And slee-py win - ter, like the sleep of

58

death.

rit. mancando pp

The musical score consists of four systems of music. System 1 (measures 1-4) features a treble clef for the vocal part and a bass clef for the piano. The vocal line begins with a dotted half note followed by eighth notes. System 2 (measures 52-56) shows a more complex piano accompaniment with chords and sixteenth-note patterns. System 3 (measures 57-61) continues with the piano providing harmonic support. System 4 (measures 62-66) concludes with a dynamic marking of *pp* (pianissimo). Articulation marks like *rit.* (ritardando) and *mancando* (mancando) are also present.