

To Florence (my daughter)

# Songs to the Dark Virgin

Langston Hughes  
(1901–1967)

FLORENCE B. PRICE  
(1887–1953)

Edited and Typeset:  
Owain Evans

**Andante con moto** *mp*

Voice: Would That I were a jew - el,

Piano: *mp* *con pedale*

3 *cresc.* *mf*

A shat - tered jew - el, That all my shin - ing bril - liants

5 *rit.* *a tempo* *poco rit.* *a tempo* *mp*

Might fall at thy feet, Thou dark one. Would That I were a gar - ment,

*rit.* *a tempo* *poco rit.* *a tempo* *mp*

8

A shim-mer-ing, silk - en gar - ment, That all my

10

cre - - - - - scen -

folds Might wrap a - bout thy bod - y, Ab -

12

- do

sorb thy bod - y, **ff** Hold and hide thy bod - y, *dim.*

- do

*ff* *r.h.* *l.h.* *dim.*

15

*mp* Thou dark one. *poco rit.*

*mp* *poco rit.*

19 *Tempo primo* *mf* *cre* - - - -

Would - - - - That I were a flame, But one sharp, leap - ing

*Tempo primo* *mf* *cre* - - - -

22 - scen - - - - - do *f* *flame* To an - ni - - hi - late thy bod - y,

- scen - - - - - do *f*

25 *ff* *rit.* Thou - - - - - dark - - - - -

*ff* *rit.* *r.h.* *l.h.*

28 *a tempo* one. - - - - -

*a tempo* *brillante* *8va* - - - - -

*Red.*