

TWO SONGS

Maude Valérie White (1855-1937)



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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Texts by William Ernest Henley

1. The Spring, My Dear

The spring, my dear,
Is no longer spring,
Does the blackbird sing
What he sang last year?
Are the skies the old
Immemorial blue?
Or am I, or are you,
Grown cold?

Though life be change,
It is hard to bear
When the old sweet air
Sounds forced and strange.
To be out of tune,
Plain You and I...
It were better to die,
And soon!

2. The Ways Are Green

The ways are green with the gladdening sheen
Of the young year's fairest daughter.
O, the shadows that fleet o'er the springing wheat!
O, the magic of running water!
The spirit of spring is in every thing.
The banners of spring are streaming.
We march to a tune from the fifes of June,
And life's a dream worth dreaming.

It's all very well to sit and spell
At the lesson there's no gainsaying;
But what the deuce are wont and use
When the whole mad world's a-maying?
When the meadow glows, and the orchard snows,
And the air's with love-motes teeming.
When fancies break, and the senses wake.
O, life's a dream worth dreaming!

[What Nature has writ with her lusty wit
Is worded so widely and kindly
That whoever has dipped in her manuscript
Must up and follow her blindly.
Now the summer prime is her blithest rhyme
In the being and the seeming,
And they that have heard the overword
Know life's a dream worth dreaming.]

TWO SONGS

1. Last Year

Lyrics by William Ernest Henley

Music by Maude Valérie White

Very simply

Voice

Piano

*mf**

very simply and sadly

4

mf

The spring, _____ my dear, _____ is no lon - ger _____

8

spring. Does the black - bird sing _____ what he sang _____ last _____

12

f

year? Are the skies _____ the old im - me - mo - rial

16 *mf*

blue? Or am I, or are you, grown

20 *sadly*

cold? Though

24

life be change, It is hard to bear

28

When the old sweet air Sounds forced and strange, To

with nobility

32

be out of tune, Plain you and I,

This system contains measures 32 through 35. The vocal line begins with a half note 'be', followed by a quarter note 'out', a half note 'of', and a quarter note 'tune,'. There is a measure rest for measure 34, followed by a half note 'Plain', a quarter note 'you', a half note 'and', and a quarter note 'I,'. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

36

It were bet - - ter to die, And soon,

This system contains measures 36 through 39. The vocal line has a half note 'It', a quarter note 'were', a half note 'bet - - ter', a quarter note 'to die,', a measure rest for measure 37, a half note 'And', and a quarter note 'soon,'. The piano accompaniment continues with the eighth-note bass line and chords.

40

soon, soon

like a cello

This system contains measures 40 through 43. The vocal line has a half note 'soon,' followed by a measure rest for measure 41, and then a half note 'soon' with a fermata. The piano accompaniment features a cello-like texture in the right hand, with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) at the start of measure 42.

44

This system contains measures 44 through 47. The vocal line has a half note followed by a measure rest for measure 45, and then a half note followed by a measure rest for measure 46. The piano accompaniment continues with the eighth-note bass line and chords, ending with a double bar line in measure 47.

2. The Fifes of June

Lyrics by William Ernest Henley

Music by Maude Valérie White

Allegro giojoso

Voice

Piano

ff

mf

3

The

5

cresc. - - - - - *poco* - - - - - *a* - - - - -

ways are green with the glad - den - ing sheen Of the

mf cresc. - - - - - *poco* - - - - - *a* - - - - -

7

- - - *poco* - - - - - *mf*

young year's fair - - - est daugh - - - ter O, the

- - - *poco* - - - - - *mf*

This musical score is for a piece titled '2. The Fifes of June'. It is composed by Maude Valérie White with lyrics by William Ernest Henley. The tempo is marked 'Allegro giojoso'. The score is written for Voice and Piano. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 12/8. The piano part features a prominent fife melody in the right hand, often accompanied by chords in the left hand. The voice part enters at measure 3 with the lyrics 'The ways are green with the glad - den - ing sheen Of the young year's fair - - - est daugh - - - ter O, the'. The score includes dynamic markings such as *ff* (fortissimo), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *cresc.* (crescendo), and *poco* (poco). There are also performance instructions like *a* (accents) and *mf* (mezzo-forte) at the end of phrases. The score is divided into systems, with measures 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, and 7-8 shown. The piano part has some fingerings indicated, such as '2' for the second finger.

9 *cre - - - - - scen - - - - - do - - - - - poco - - -*

sha - dows that fleet o'er the spring - - - ing wheat! O, the

cre - - - - - scen - - - - - do - - - - - poco - - -

11 *- - - - - a - - - - - poco - - - - - mf*

ma - gic of run - - - - - ning wa - - - - - ter The

- - - - - a - - - - - poco - - - - - mf

accel. poco a poco

13 *cre - - - - - scen - - - - - do - - - - -*

spi - - - rit of spring is in ev' - - - - - ry thing, The

cre - - - - - scen - - - - - do - - - - -

15 *poco - - - - - a - - - - - poco - - - - -*

ban - ners of spring are stream - - - - - ing, We

poco - - - - - a - - - - - poco - - - - -

17 *f* with rapture

march to a tune from the fives of June, And

19

life's a dream worth dream - - - - -

21 **Tempo I**

- ing

23 *mf*

It's

25 *cresc.* - - - - - *poco* - - - - - *a* - - - - -

all ve - ry well to sit _____ and spell At the

mf cresc. - - - - - *poco* - - - - - *a* - - - - -

27 - - - *poco* - - - - - *mf*

les - son there's no _____ gain - say - - - ing; But

- - - *poco* - - - - - *mf*

29 *cre* - - - - - *scen* - - - - - *do* - - - - - *poco* - - - - -

what _____ the deuce are wont _____ and use When the

cre - - - - - *scen* - - - - - *do* - - - - - *poco* - - - - -

31 - - - - - *a* - - - - - *poco* - - - - - *mf*

whole mad world's _____ a - may - - - ing? When the

- - - - - *a* - - - - - *poco* - - - - - *mf*

accel. poco a poco

33 *cre* - - - - - *scen* - - - - - *do* - - - - -

mea - - - - - dow glows, and the or - - - - - chard snows, And the

cre - - - - - *scen* - - - - - *do* - - - - -

35 *poco* - - - - - *a* - - - - - *poco* - - - - -

air's - - - - - with love - - - - - motes teem - - - - - ing, - - - - - When

poco - - - - - *a* - - - - - *poco* - - - - -

37 *f* *enthusiastically*

fan - - - - - cies break, and the sen - - - - - ses - - - - - wake, O,

39

life's - - - - - a dream - - - - - worth - - - - - dream - - - - - ing! When

41

fan - cies break, and the sen - ses wake, O,

43 *with rapture*

life's a dream worth dream - - - ing, A

45

dream, worth dream - - - - -

47

- ing!

8^{va}