

The Seeds of Love

While sitting in the vicarage garden at Hambridge, Somerset in the summer of 1903, Cecil Sharp listened to the gardener John England singing this song to himself as he mowed the lawn. It is the first English folksong Sharp collected. (*Songs of Somerset*, 1910)

In accordance with the language of flowers:

Violet - Modesty

Lily - Purity

Pink - Courtesy

Rose - Passionate Love

Willow - Unhappy Love

Andante sostenuto

Treble Rec. *mp*

Voice *mp* I sowed the seeds of

Basset & Gt. Bass

The first system of the musical score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat. It features three staves: Treble Recorder, Voice, and Bass. The music begins with a rest for the first two measures, followed by a melodic line in the recorder and a supporting bass line. The voice part enters in the third measure with the lyrics 'I sowed the seeds of'.

5

Love, And I sowed them in the spring - time: I gath - ered them up - in the

The second system continues the piece, starting at measure 5. It features three staves: Treble Recorder, Voice, and Bass. The music continues with a melodic line in the recorder and a supporting bass line. The voice part enters in the third measure of this system with the lyrics 'Love, And I sowed them in the spring - time: I gath - ered them up - in the'.

9

morn - ing so soon, while the small birds so sweet - ly sing, While the

The third system continues the piece, starting at measure 9. It features three staves: Treble Recorder, Voice, and Bass. The music continues with a melodic line in the recorder and a supporting bass line. The voice part enters in the third measure of this system with the lyrics 'morn - ing so soon, while the small birds so sweet - ly sing, While the'.

12

small birds do sweet - ly sing. 2) My

16

gar - den was plant - ed well With flow - ers eve - ry - where: But

20

I had not lib - er - ty to choose for my - self Of the flow'rs that I love so

23

dear, Of the flow'rs that I love so dear.

27

3) The gard'- ner was stand- ing by; And I asked him to choose for

31

me, He chose for me the Vi - o - let, the Li - ly and the Pink, But those

34

p *mf*
I re-fus-éd all three, But those I re-fus-éd all three.

38

4) The Vio - let I did not like, Be -

42

'cause it bloomed so soon. The Li - ly and the Pink I real - ly

45

ov - er - think, So I vowed I would wait till June, So I

48

vowed I would wait till June. 5) In

52

June was a red Rose-bud, And that is the flower for me, I

56

of- times have pluck-éd that red Rose - - bud Till I gain - éd the wil - low

59

tree, Till I gain - éd the wil-low tree.

63

6) The wil - low tree will twist And the wil-low tree will

67

twine; I of- times have wish-éd I were in that young man's arms That

70 *rit.*

cresc.

once had the heart of mine, That once had the heart of mine.

74 *A tempo*

78 *mf*

mf 7) Come, all you false young men, Do not leave me here to com

82

plain:— For the grass that has of-ten-times been tram-pled un-der foot, Giv-en

85

time, it will rise up a - gain, Giv - en time, it will rise up a -



88 **rit.**

gain, For the grass that has of - ten - times been tram - pled un - der foot, Giv - en



91 **allargando**

time, it will rise_ up a - gain, Giv - en time, it will rise up a - gain.