

Three Songs on Poems of Housman

for Tenor and Piano

by

John M. Tarrh

With rue my heart is laden
from *A Shropshire Lad* (LIV)

With rue my heart is laden
For golden friends I had,
For many a rose-lipt maiden
And many a lightfoot lad.

By brooks too broad for leaping
The lightfoot boys are laid;
The rose-lipt girls are sleeping
In fields where roses fade.

Oh, when I was in love with you
from *A Shropshire Lad* (XVIII)

Oh, when I was in love with you,
Then I was clean and brave,
And miles around the wonder grew
How well I did behave.

And now the fancy passes by,
And nothing will remain,
And miles around they'll say that I
Am quite myself again.

Into my heart an air that kills
from *A Shropshire Lad* (XL)

Into my heart an air that kills
From yon far country blows:
What are those blue remembered hills,
What spires, what farms are those?

That is the land of lost content,
I see it shining plain,
The happy highways where I went
And cannot come again.

Program Notes

“Alfred Edward Housman (1859 – 1936) was one of the finest classical scholars of his time, but it is as a poet that he is best known. His verse is noted for its economy of words and directness of statement, pictures of the English countryside, and the fusion of humor and pathos. The passing of youth and the inevitability of death is his most characteristic theme.” (Columbia Encyclopedia, Sixth Edition, 2001.)

The three poems selected are among his best known. The settings mirror the poetry of Housman in their simplicity and directness.

John M. Tarrh

With rue my heart is laden

A. E. Housman, from *A Shropshire Lad* (LIV)

John M. Tarrh

Andante ♩ = 80

Tenor

Piano

mf

4

T

Pno.

7

T

mf *f*

With rue my heart is

Pno.

p

With rue my heart is laden

2/71

T

8

la - den

f

For gol - den

Pno.

14

T

8

friends I had,

mp

For

Pno.

18

T

8

many a rose - lipt maid - en

For

Pno.

With rue my heart is laden

22

T

8

many a light foot lad. By

Pno.

26

T

8

brooks to broad for leap - ing

Pno.

f

mf

29

T

8

The light - foot boys are

Pno.

mp

p

32

T 8 laid; The - rose - lipt girls are

Pno.

36

T 8 sleep - ing In

Pno.

rit.

39

T 8 fields where ros - es fade.

Pno.

mf *p*

morendo

3

8^{va}

Oh, when I was in love with you

A. E. Housman, from *A Shropshire Lad* (XVIII)

John M. Tarrh

Andante $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 76$

Tenor *mf*
Oh, when I

Piano *mp*

T 8 *f* *mf*
was in love with you, Then I was clean and brave, And

Pno. *f* *mp*

T 16 *p*
miles a - round the won - der grew How well I did be - have.

Pno. *p*

Oh, when I was in love with you

T 24
8 And now the fan - cy pas - ses

Pno. 24

T 32
8 by, And no - thing will re - main, And miles a - round they'll

Pno. 32

rit.

T 40
8 say that I Am quite my - self a - gain.

Pno. 40

f *p* $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 100$

Into my heart an air that kills

A. E. Housman, from *A Shropshire Lad* (XL)

John M. Tarrh

con rubato $\bullet = \text{ca. } 100$

Voice

Piano

p

5

mf

In - to my heart an

Pno.

9

f

air _____ that kills

Pno.

f *mf*

2
12

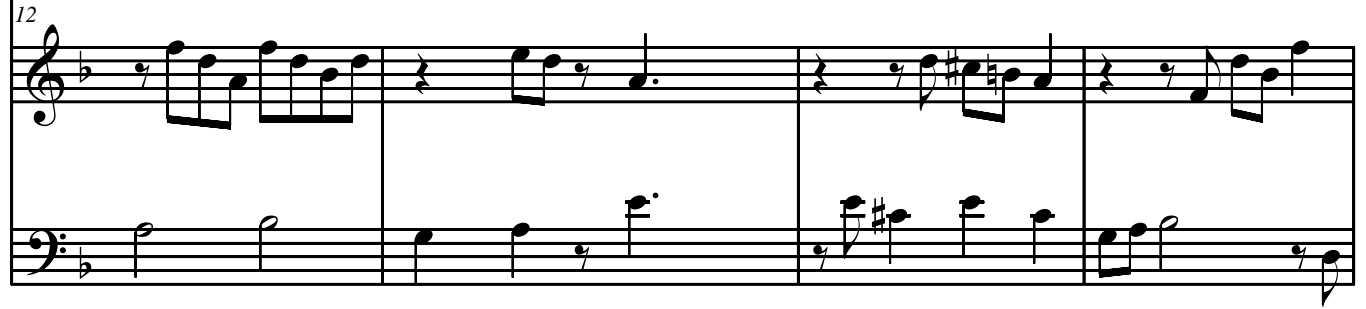
mf

Into my heart an air that kills



From yon far coun-try blows: _____

Pno.



16

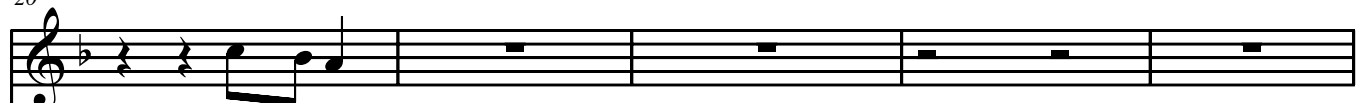


What are those blue re - mem - bered -

Pno.

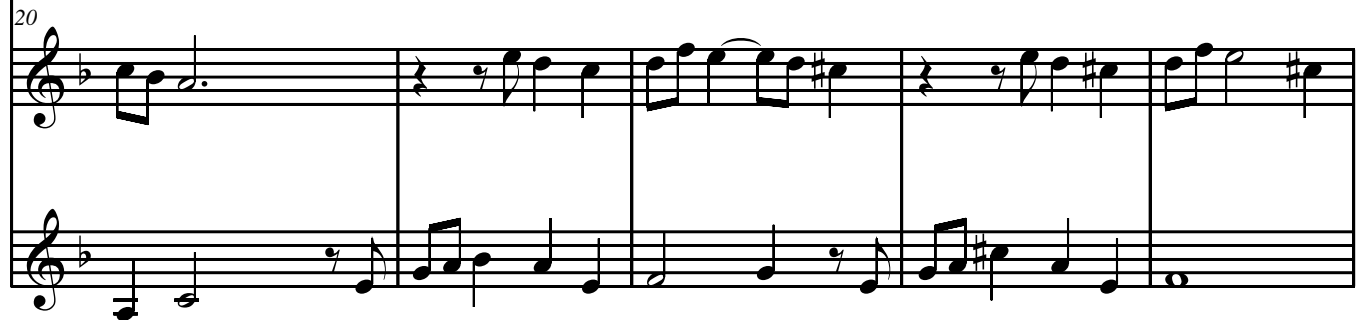


20



hills, _____

Pno.



25

p

Vocal line for measures 25-28. The melody consists of quarter notes and rests. The lyrics are: "What spires, what farms are those?"

What spires, what farms are those?

Pno.

25

Piano accompaniment for measures 25-28. The right hand features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, while the left hand plays a simple bass line of quarter notes.

29

mf

Vocal line for measures 29-32. The melody consists of quarter notes and rests. The lyrics are: "That is the land of lost con -"

That is the land of lost con -

Pno.

29

Piano accompaniment for measures 29-32. The right hand continues with eighth-note patterns, and the left hand provides harmonic support with quarter notes.

34

f

Vocal line for measures 34-37. The melody consists of quarter notes and rests. The lyrics are: "tent, I see it shin - ing plain,"

tent, I see it shin - ing plain,

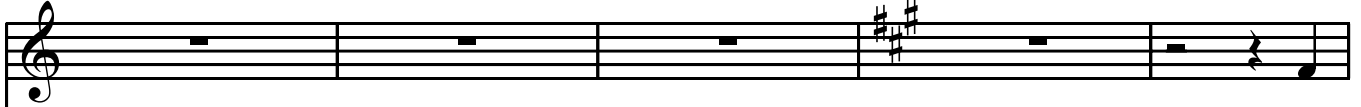
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34

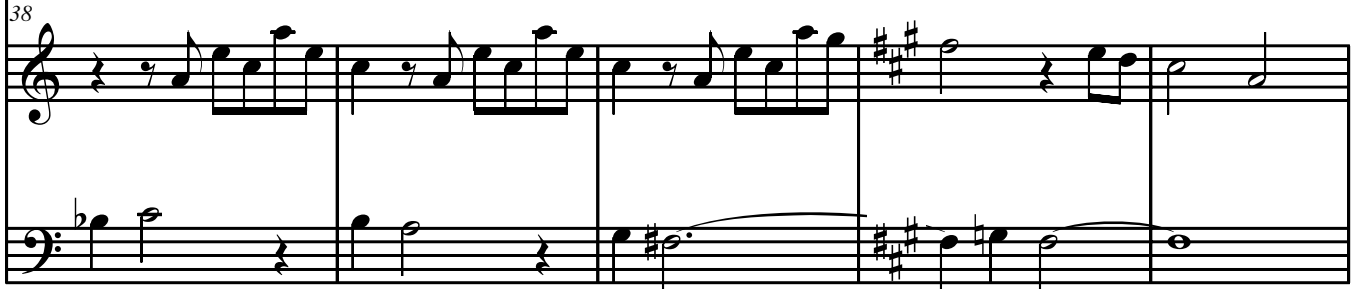
Piano accompaniment for measures 34-37. The right hand features eighth-note patterns, and the left hand plays a bass line with quarter notes.

38

p



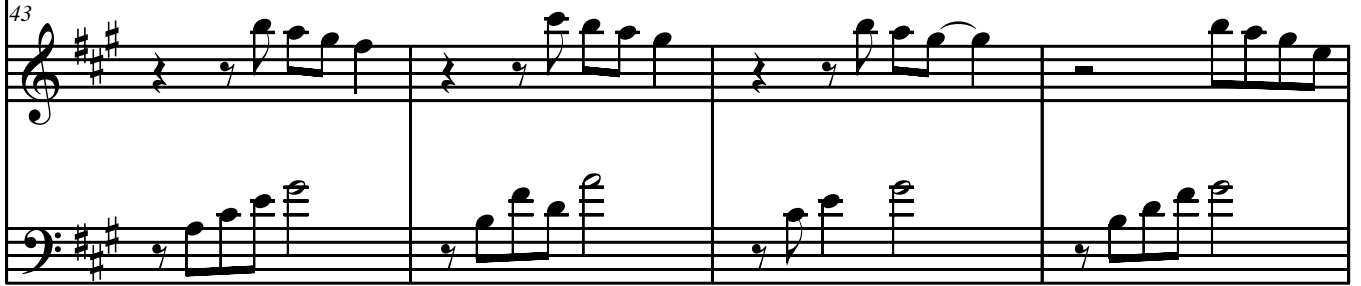
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43



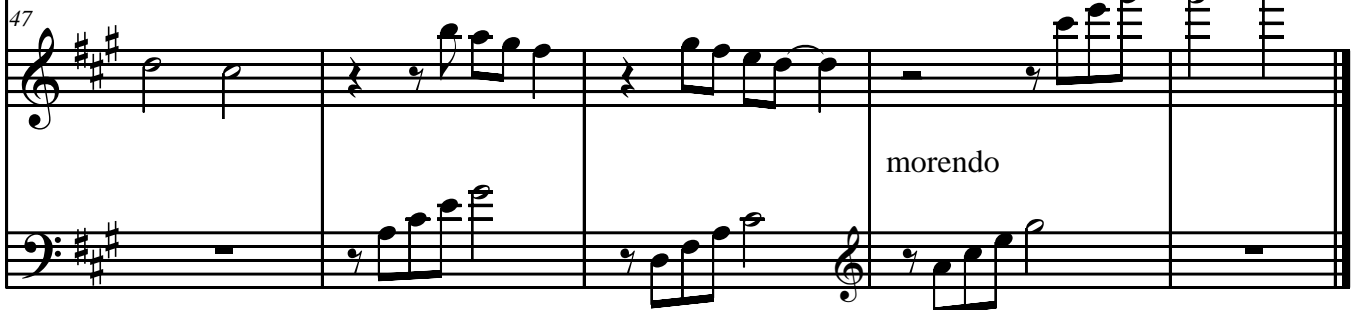
Pno.



47



Pno.



Red.

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