



# AS A BEAM O'ER THE FACE OF THE WATERS

AIR: THE YOUNG MAN'S DREAM

MICHAEL WILLIAM BALFE  
(1808-1870)

*Andantino*

S  
As a beam o'er the face of the wa - ters may

A  
As a beam o'er the face of the wa - ters may

T  
As a beam o'er the face of the wa - ters may

B  
As a beam o'er the face of the wa - ters may

*Andantino*

Piano  
*p* *f* *p*

## As a beam o'er the face of the waters

6

S glow While the tide runs in dark - ness and cold - ness be - low, So the *cresc.*

A glow While the tide runs in dark - ness and cold - ness be - low, So the *cresc.*

T glow While the tide runs in dark - ness and cold - ness be - low, So the *cresc.*

B glow While the tide runs in dark - ness and cold - ness be - low, So the *cresc.*

Pno. *cresc.*

11

S cheek may be tinged with a warm sun - ny smile, Tho' the

A cheek may be tinged with a warm sun - ny smile, Tho' the

T cheek may be tinged with a warm sun - ny smile, Tho' the

B cheek may be tinged with a warm sun - ny smile, Tho' the

Pno.

# As a beam o'er the face of the waters

15

S cold heart to ru - in runs dark - ly the while.

A cold heart to ru - in runs dark - ly the while.

T cold heart to ru - in runs dark - ly the while.

B cold heart to ru - in runs dark - ly the while.

Pno.

20

S One fa - tal re - mem - brance, one sor - row that

A One fa - tal re - mem - brance, one sor - row that

T One fa - tal re - mem - brance, one sor - row that

B One fa - tal re - mem - brance, one sor - row that

Pno.

## As a beam o'er the face of the waters

25

S throws Its bleak shade a - like o'er our joys and our woes, To which *cresc.*

A throws Its bleak shade a - like o'er our joys and our woes, To which *cresc.*

T throws Its bleak shade a - like o'er our joys and our woes, To which *cresc.*

B throws Its bleak shade a - like o'er our joys and our woes, To which *cresc.*

Pno. *cresc.*

30

S life noth - ing dark - er or bright - er can bring, For which

A life noth - ing dark - er or bright - er can bring, For which

T life noth - ing dark - er or bright - er can bring, For which

B life noth - ing dark - er or bright - er can bring, For which

Pno.

# As a beam o'er the face of the waters

34 *cresc.* *dim.*

S joy has no balm and af - flic - tion no sting—

A joy has no balm and af - flic - tion no sting—

T joy has no balm and af - flic - tion no sting—

B joy has no balm and af - flic - tion no sting—

Pno. *cresc.* *dim.* *p*

39 *p*

S Oh! this thought in the midst of en - joy - ment will

A Oh! this thought in the midst of en - joy - ment will

T Oh! this thought in the midst of en - joy - ment will

B Oh! this thought in the midst of en - joy - ment will

Pno. *p* *f* *p*

## As a beam o'er the face of the waters

44

S stay, Like a dead, leaf - less branch in the sum - mer's bright ray; The *cresc.*

A stay, Like a dead, leaf - less branch in the sum - mer's bright ray; The *cresc.*

T stay, Like a dead, leaf - less branch in the sum - mer's bright ray; The *cresc.*

B stay, Like a dead, leaf - less branch in the sum - mer's bright ray; The *cresc.*

Pno. *cresc.*

49

S beams of the warm sun play round it in vain; It may

A beams of the warm sun play round it in vain; It may

T beams of the warm sun play round it in vain; It may

B beams of the warm sun play round it in vain; It may

Pno.

# As a beam o'er the face of the waters

53 *cresc.* *dim.*  
S smile in his light, but it blooms not a - gain.

53 *cresc.* *dim.*  
A smile in his light, but it blooms not a - gain.

53 *cresc.* *dim.*  
T smile in his light, but it blooms not a - gain.

53 *cresc.* *dim.*  
B smile in his light, but it blooms not a - gain.

53 *cresc.* *dim.* *p*  
Pno.

J. Alfred Novello  
(1859)

**Michael William Balfe** (1808-1870) was born in Dublin, Ireland, and studied music in Ireland and London. At age 16, he became violinist in the Drury Lane orchestra and was celebrated as a singer throughout the region. His patron, Count Mazzara, took him to Italy, where he studied composition in Rome and Milan. His first dramatic piece was produced in Milan in 1826. He sang at the Paris Italian Opera and in Italian theaters until 1835, also producing several Italian operas, and sang in New York City in 1834. He returned to England and was a successful composer of English operas, at times residing in Paris and Vienna. He retired in 1864 and died in Rowney Abbey, Hertfordshire. His compositions include a number of operas, cantatas, glees, and part-songs.

As a beam o'er the face of the waters may glow  
While the tide runs in darkness and coldness below,  
So the cheek may be tinged with a warm sunny smile,  
Though the cold heart to ruin runs darkly the while.

One fatal remembrance, one sorrow that throws  
Its bleak shade alike o'er our joys and our woes,  
To which life nothing darker or brighter can bring,  
For which joy has no balm and affliction no sting—

Oh! this thought in the midst of enjoyment will stay,  
Like a dead, leafless branch in the summer's bright ray;  
The beams of the warm sun play round it in vain;  
It may smile in his light, but it blooms not again.

Thomas Moore (1779–1852)

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