



I saw thy form
in youthful prime

AIR: DOMHNALL

michael wílliam Balfe
(1808-1870)

I SATU THY FORM IN YOUTHFUL PRIME

M. W. Balfe

Larghetto

S
A
T
B

Larghetto

Piano



I saw thy form in youthful prime

5

S saw thy form in youth - ful prime, Nor thought that pale de - cay Would

A saw thy form in youth - ful prime, Nor thought that pale de - cay Would

T saw thy form in youth - ful prime, Nor thought that pale de - cay Would

B saw thy form in youth - ful prime, Nor thought that pale de - cay Would

Pno. *pp*

9

S steal be - fore the steps of Time, And waste its bloom a -

A steal be - fore the steps of Time, And waste its bloom a -

T steal be - fore the steps of Time, And waste its bloom a -

B steal be - fore the steps of Time, And waste its bloom a -

Pno.

I saw thy form in youthful prime

12

S way, MAR - Y! Yet still thy fea - tures wore that light, Which

A way, MAR - Y! Yet still thy fea - tures wore that light, Which

T way, MAR - Y! Yet still thy fea - tures wore that light, Which

B way, MAR - Y! Yet still thy fea - tures wore that light, Which

Pno.

15

S fleets not with the breath; And life ne'er look'd more

A fleets not with the breath; And life ne'er look'd more

T fleets not with the breath; And life ne'er look'd more

B fleets not with the breath; And life ne'er look'd more

Pno.

I SATU THY FORM IN YOUTHFUL PRIME

18

S
tru - ly bright Than in thy smile of death, MAR - Y!

A
tru - ly bright Than in thy smile of death, MAR - Y!

T
tru - ly bright Than in thy smile of death, MAR - Y!

B
tru - ly bright Than in thy smile of death, MAR - Y!

Pno.

riten.

21

S
As

A
As

T
As

B
As

Pno.

p

I satu thy form in youthful prime

26

S
streams that run o'er gold - en mines, With mod - est mur - mur glide, Nor -

A
streams that run o'er gold - en mines, With mod - est mur - mur glide, Nor -

T
streams that run o'er gold - en mines, With mod - est mur - mur glide, Nor -

B
streams that run o'er gold - en mines, With mod - est mur - mur glide, Nor -

Pno.
pp

30

S
seem to know the wealth that shines With - in their gen - tle

A
seem to know the wealth that shines With - in their gen - tle

T
seem to know the wealth that shines With - in their gen - tle

B
seem to know the wealth that shines With - in their gen - tle

Pno.

I SATU THY FORM IN YOUTHFUL PRIME

33

S
tide, MAR - Y! So veil'd be - neath the sim - plest guise, Thy

A
tide, MAR - Y! So veil'd be - neath the sim - plest guise, Thy

T
tide, MAR - Y! So veil'd be - neath the sim - plest guise, Thy

B
tide, MAR - Y! So veil'd be - neath the sim - plest guise, Thy

Pno.

36

S
ra - diant ge - nius shone, And that which charm'd all

A
ra - diant ge - nius shone, And that which charm'd all

T
ra - diant ge - nius shone, And that which charm'd all

B
ra - diant ge - nius shone, And that which charm'd all

Pno.

I SATU THY FORM IN YOUTHFUL PRIME

39

S
oth - er eyes Seem'd worth - less in thy own, MAR - Y!

A
oth - er eyes Seem'd worth - less in thy own, MAR - Y!

T
oth - er eyes Seem'd worth - less in thy own, MAR - Y!

B
oth - er eyes Seem'd worth - less in thy own, MAR - Y!

Pno.

riten.

42

S
If

A
If

T
If

B
If

Pno.

p

I SATU THY FORM IN YOUTHFUL PRIME

47

S souls could al - ways dwell a - bove, Thou ne'er hadst left thy sphere; Or

A souls could al - ways dwell a - bove, Thou ne'er hadst left thy sphere; Or

T souls could al - ways dwell a - bove, Thou ne'er hadst left thy sphere; Or

B souls could al - ways dwell a - bove, Thou ne'er hadst left thy sphere; Or

Pno. *pp*

51

S could we keep the souls we love, We ne'er had lost thee

A could we keep the souls we love, We ne'er had lost thee

T could we keep the souls we love, We ne'er had lost thee

B could we keep the souls we love, We ne'er had lost thee

Pno.

I SATU THY FORM IN YOUTHFUL PRIME

54

S here, MAR - Y! Tho' man-y a gift - ed mind we meet, Tho'

A here, MAR - Y! Tho' man-y a gift - ed mind we meet, Tho'

T here, MAR - Y! Tho' man-y a gift - ed mind we meet, Tho'

B here, MAR - Y! Tho' man-y a gift - ed mind we meet, Tho'

Pno.

57

S fair - est forms we see, To live with them is

A fair - est forms we see, To live with them is

T fair - est forms we see, To live with them is

B fair - est forms we see, To live with them is

Pno.

I satu thy form in youthful prime

60

S far less sweet Than to re - mem - ber thee, MAR - Y!

A far less sweet Than to re - mem - ber thee, MAR - Y!

T far less sweet Than to re - mem - ber thee, MAR - Y!

B far less sweet Than to re - mem - ber thee, MAR - Y!

60

Pno.

riten.

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.

I saw thy form in youthful prime,
Nor thought that pale decay
Would steal before the steps of Time,
And waste its bloom away, Mary!
Yet still thy features wore that light,
Which fleets not with the breath;
And life ne'er look'd more truly bright
Than in thy smile of death, Mary!

As streams that run o'er golden mines,
With modest murmur glide,
Nor seem to know the wealth that shines
Within their gentle tide, Mary!
So veil'd beneath the simplest guise,
Thy radiant genius shone,
And that which charm'd all other eyes
Seem'd worthless in thy own, Mary!

If souls could always dwell above,
Thou ne'er hadst left thy sphere;
Or could we keep the souls we love,
We ne'er had lost thee here, Mary!
Though many a gifted mind we meet,
Though fairest forms we see,
To live with them is far less sweet
Than to remember thee, Mary!

Thomas Moore (1779–1852)

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