



The Skylark

Joseph Barnby
(1838-1896)

Sir Joseph Barnby (1838-1896) was born at York, as a son of organist Thomas Barnby. He was a chorister at York Minster and was educated at the Royal Academy of Music. In 1856, he competed for the first Mendelssohn Scholarship and tied for first place with Arthur Sullivan. After a second test, Sullivan won. Barnby held organist positions at Mitcham, St. Michael's, Queenhithe, and St. James' the Less, Westminster, St. Andrew's, Wells Street, London, and St. Anne's, Soho. In London, he also was conductor of "Barnby's Choir," well known for their many performances. In 1871 he was appointed, in succession to Charles Gounod, conductor of the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, holding that position until his death. He was director of music at Eton College then principal of the Guildhall School of Music. His works include oratorio, many services and anthems, and 246 hymn tunes, many part-songs, and organ pieces. He is the subject of a popular story (probably apocryphal) about a young contralto who, at the end of a Handel solo, put in a high note instead of the less effective note usually sung. Barnby, the conductor, was shocked, and asked whether Miss – thought she was right to improve on Handel. "Well, Sir Joseph," she said, "I've got an 'E' and I don't see why I shouldn't show it off." To which Barnby replied, "I believe you have two knees, but I hope you won't show them off here."

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J. Barnby

Allegretto con moto ♩ = 84

S *p* Bird of the wil - der - ness, Blythe-some and cum - ber - less, Sweet be thy

A *p* Bird of the wil - der - ness, Blythe - some and cum - ber - less,

T *p* Bird of the wil - der - ness, Blythe - some and cum - ber - less,

B *p* Bird of the wil - der - ness, Blythe - some and cum - ber - less,

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S ma - tin o'er moor - land and lea! _____ Em - blem of hap - pi - ness, Blest is thy

A Sweet be thy ma - tin o'er moor-land and lea! _____ Em - blem of hap - pi - ness,

T Sweet be thy ma - tin o'er moor-land and lea! _____ Em - blem of hap - pi - ness,

B Sweet be thy ma - tin o'er lea! _____ Em - blem of hap - pi - ness,

6

S dwel - ling-place— O to a - bide, O, to a - bide, *calendo ff*

A Blest is thy dwel - ling, O, O, O to a - bide, *calendo ff*

T Blest is thy dwel - ling, O, O, O to a - bide, *calendo ff*

B Blest is thy dwel - ling, O, O, O to a - bide, *calendo ff*

9

S bide in the de - sert with thee! _____ Wild, wild is thy lay and

A bide in the de - sert with thee! _____ Wild,

T bide in the de - sert with thee! _____ Wild,

B bide in the de - sert with thee! _____ Wild,

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S loud, _____ Far, far in the down - y cloud, _____

A loud, _____ Far, _____ far, _____

T loud, _____ Far, _____ far, _____

B *dim.* wild, wild is thy lay and loud, _____ *p* Far, far in the down - y *cresc.*

15

S *f* Love gives it en - er - gy, _____ love gave it

A *f* Love gives it en - er - gy, _____ love gave it

T *f* Love gives it en - er - gy, _____ love gave it

B *f* cloud, Love gives it en - er - gy, _____ love gave it

18

S *dim.* birth, _____ love _____ gave it _____ birth, _____ love _____ *p*

A *dim.* birth, love, _____ love gave it birth, love, _____ *p*

T *dim.* birth, love, _____ love gave it birth, love, _____ *p*

B *dim.* birth, _____ love gave it birth, _____ *p*

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S *p* gave it birth. Bird of the wil - der - ness, Blythe - some and

A love gave it birth, gave it birth. Bird of the wil - der - ness,

T love gave it birth, gave it birth. Bird of the wil - der - ness,

B love gave it birth. Bird of the wil - der - ness,

25

S cum - ber - less, Sweet be thy ma - tin o'er moor - land and lea! Em - blem of

A Blythe - some and cum - ber - less, Sweet be thy ma - tin o'er moor - land and lea!

T Blythe - some and cum - ber - less, Sweet be thy ma - tin o'er moor - land and lea!

B Blythe - some and cum - ber - less, Sweet be thy ma - tin o'er lea!

28

S hap - pi - ness, Blest is thy dwel - lingplace— O to a - bide, O,

A *p* Em - blem of hap - pi - ness, Blest is thy dwel - ling, O, O,

T *p* Em - blem of hap - pi - ness, Blest is thy dwel - ling, O, O,

B *p* Em - blem of hap - pi - ness, Blest is thy dwel - ling, O, O,

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31

S to a - bide, to a - bide in the de - sert with thee!

A O to a - bide in the de - sert with thee!

T O to a - bide in the de - sert with thee!

B O to a - bide in the de - sert with thee!

S O'er fell and foun - tain sheen, O'er moor and moun - tain green, O'er the red

A O'er fell and foun - tain sheen, O'er moor and moun - tain green,

T O'er fell and foun - tain sheen, O'er moor and moun - tain green,

B O'er fell and foun - tain sheen, O'er moor and moun - tain green,

37

S stream-er that her - alds the day, O - ver the cloud - let dim, O - ver the

A O'er the red stream - er that her - alds the day, O - ver the cloud - let dim,

T O'er the red stream - er that her - alds the day, O - ver the cloud - let dim,

B O'er the red stream - er that day, O - ver the cloud - let dim,

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S rain - bow's rim, *f calendo* Mu - sic - al cher - ub, soar, sing - ing, *dim.* a - way! _____

A *f calendo* O - ver the rain - bow, Mu - sic - al cher - ub, *dim.* a - way! _____

T *f calendo* O - ver the rain - bow's rim, soar, sing - ing, *dim.* a - way! _____

B *f calendo* O - ver the rain - bow's rim, Mu - sic - al cher - ub, *dim.* a - way! _____ *p* Then,

43

S *pp* Then, when the gloam - ing comes, _____ Low in the

A *pp* When the gloam - ing comes, Low in the

T *pp* When the gloam - ing comes, Low in the

B *pp* then, when the gloam - ing comes, Low _____ in the

46

S heath - er blooms, _____ Sweet will thy wel - come _____ and

A heath - er blooms, Sweet will thy wel - come _____ and

T heath - er blooms, Sweet will thy wel - come _____ and

B heath - er blooms, Sweet will thy wel - come _____ and

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49 *pp*

S bed of love be! Then, when the

A bed of love be! Then, when the

T bed of love be! Then, when the

B bed of love be! Then, then, when the

52 *cresc.* *mf*

S gloam - ing comes, Low in the heath - er blooms, Sweet will thy

A gloam - ing comes, Low in the heath - er blooms, Sweet will thy

T gloam - ing comes, Low in the heath - er blooms, Sweet will

B gloam - ing comes, Low in the heath - er blooms, Sweet will thy

56 *dim.* *pp rit.*

S wel - come and bed of love be! sweet,

A wel - come and bed of love be! sweet,

T wel - come and bed of love be! sweet,

B wel - come, thy wel - come be! sweet,

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S *ppp* sweet, *a tempo* *p* Bird of the wil - der - ness, Blythe - some and

A *ppp* sweet, *a tempo* *p* Bird of the wil - der - ness,

T *ppp* sweet, *a tempo* *p* Bird of the wil - der - ness,

B *ppp* sweet, *a tempo* *p* Bird of the wil - der - ness,

62

S cum - ber - less, Sweet be thy ma - tin o'er moor - land and lea! *p* Em - blem of

A Blythe - some and cum - ber - less, Sweet be thy ma - tin o'er moor - land and lea!

T Blythe - some and cum - ber - less, Sweet be thy ma - tin o'er moor - land and lea!

B Blythe - some and cum - ber - less, Sweet be thy ma - tin o'er lea!

65

S hap - pi - ness, Blest is thy dwel - ling - place— *f* *>* O to a - bide, *pp* *>* O,

A *p* Em - blem of hap - pi - ness, Blest is thy dwel - ling, *f* *>* O, *pp* *>* O,

T *p* Em - blem of hap - pi - ness, Blest is thy dwel - ling, *f* *>* O, *pp* *>* O,

B *p* Em - blem of hap - pi - ness, Blest is thy dwel - ling, *f* *>* O, *pp* *>* O,

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68

to a - bide, to a - bide in the de - sert with thee!
O to a - bide in the de - sert with thee!

calendo ff

calendo ff

calendo ff

calendo ff

Novello, Ewer and Co.
(1860-1885)

Bird of the wilderness,
Blythesome and cumberless,
Sweet be thy matin o'er moorland and lea!
Emblem of happiness,
Blest is thy dwelling-place—
O to abide in the desert with thee!
Wild is thy lay and loud,
Far in the downy cloud,
Love gives it energy, love gave it birth.
O'er fell and fountain sheen,
O'er moor and mountain green,
O'er the red steamer that heralds the day,
Over the cloudlet dim,
Over the rainbow's rim,
Musical cherub, soar, singing, away!
Then, when the gloaming comes,
Low in the heather blooms,
Sweet will thy welcome and bed of love be!
Emblem of happiness,
Blest is thy dwelling-place—
O to abide in the desert with thee!

James Hogg (1770-1835)

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