



*O, were my love  
yon lilac fair*

*H. M. Higgs*

*(1855-1929)*

**Henry Marcellus Higgs** (1855-1929) was born in Pimlico, London, son of organist Marcellus Higgs. An organist himself, H. M. Higgs became chief musical editor for publishers Metzler & Co. and, during his last 22 years, for Chappell & Co. As a composer, he was known mainly for organ and small orchestral pieces. His uncle James Higgs (1829-1902) was professor of organ and harmony at the Royal Academy of Music.

O, were my love yon lilac fair  
Wi' purple blossom to the spring,  
And I a bird to shelter there,  
When wearied on my little wing:  
How I wad mourn when it was torn  
By Autumn wild and Winter rude!  
But I wad sing on wanton wing,  
When youthfu' May its bloom renew'd.

O, gin my love were yon red rose,  
That grows upon the castle wa',  
And I mysel' a drap o' dew  
Into her bonnie breast to fa'!  
O, there, beyond expression blest,  
I'd feast on beauty a' the night;  
Seal'd on her silk-saft faulds to rest,  
Till fley'd awa by Phœbus' light!

Robert Burns (1759-1796)

# O, were my Love yon lilac fair

H. M. Higgs

Allegretto ♩ = 76

S O, were my love yon li - lac fair Wi' pur - ple blos - som to the

A O, were my love yon li - lac fair Wi' pur - ple blos - som to the

T O, were my love yon li - lac fair Wi' pur - ple blos - som to the

B O, were my love yon li - lac fair Wi' pur - ple blos - som to the

S spring, And I a bird to shel - ter there, When wea - ried on my

A spring, And I a bird to shel - ter there, When wea - ried on my

T spring, And I a bird to shel - ter there, to shel - ter there, When wea - ried on my

B spring, And I a bird, When wea - ried on my

S lit - tle wing, when wea - ried on my lit - tle wing: How I wad mourn

A lit - tle wing, my lit - tle wing: How I wad

T lit - tle wing, when wea - ried on my lit - tle wing: How I wad

B lit - tle wing, my lit - tle wing: How I wad

## O, were my Love yon lilac fair

12

S when it was torn By Au - tumn wild and Win - ter

A mourn when it was torn By Au - tumn wild and Win - ter

T mourn when it was torn By Au - tumn wild and Win - ter

B mourn when it was torn By Au - tumn wild and Win - ter

*f* *molto marcato*

16

S rude! By Au - tumn wild and Win - ter rude! But I wad sing on wan - ton

A rude! By Au - tumn wild and Win - ter rude! But I wad sing on wan - ton

T rude! By Au - tumn wild and Win - ter rude! But I wad sing on wan - ton

B rude! By Au - tumn wild and Win - ter rude! But I wad sing on

*pp* *rall.* *a tempo*

20

S wing, When youth - fu' May its bloom re - new'd, But I wad sing on wan - ton

A wing, When youth - fu' May its bloom re - new'd, But I wad sing on wan - ton

T wing, When youth - fu' May its bloom re - new'd, But I wad sing on wan - ton

B wing, When youth - fu' May its bloom re - new'd, But I wad sing on wan - ton

*cresc. e cresc.*

24

S wing, When youth - fu' May, when youth - fu' May its bloom re - new'd.

A wing, When youth - fu' May, when youth - fu' May its bloom re - new'd.

T wing, When youth - fu' May, when youth - fu' May its bloom re - new'd.

B wing, When youth - fu' May, when youth - fu' May its bloom re - new'd.

*rall.*

*A tempo*

S O, gin my love were yon red rose, That grows up - on the cas - tle

A O, gin my love were yon red rose, That grows up - on the cas - tle

T O, gin my love were yon red rose, That grows up - on the cas - tle

B O, gin my love were yon red rose, That grows up - on the cas - tle

*p*

31

S wa', And I my - sel' a drap o' dew In - to her bon - nie

A wa', And I my - sel' a drap o' dew In - to her bon - nie

T wa', And I my - sel' a drap o' dew, a drap o' dew In - to her bon - nie

B wa', And I my - sel', In - to her bon - nie

## O, were my Love yon lilac fair

35

S  
breast to fa', in - to her bon - nie breast to fa'! O, there, be - yond

A  
breast to fa', her breast to fa'! O, there, be -

T  
breast to fa', in - to her bon - nie breast to fa'! O, there, be -

B  
breast to fa', her breast to fa'! O, there, be -

*rall.* *a tempo* *rall.* *a tempo* *rall.* *a tempo* *rall.* *a tempo*

39

S  
ex - pres - sion blest, I'd feast on beau - ty a' the

A  
yond ex - pres - sion blest, I'd feast on beau - ty a' the

T  
yond ex - pres - sion blest, I'd feast on beau - ty a' the

B  
yond ex - pres - sion blest, I'd feast on beau - ty a' the

*f* *molto marcato* *f* *molto marcato* *f* *molto marcato* *f* *molto marcato*

43

S  
night, I'd feast on beau - ty a' the night; Seal'd on her silk - saft faulds to

A  
night, I'd feast on beau - ty a' the night; Seal'd on her silk - saft faulds to

T  
night, I'd feast on beau - ty a' the night; Seal'd on her silk - saft faulds to

B  
night, I'd feast on beau - ty a' the night; Seal'd on her faulds to

*pp* *rall.* *a tempo* *pp* *rall.* *a tempo* *pp* *rall.* *a tempo* *pp* *rall.* *a tempo*

47

S rest, Till fley'd a - wa by Phœ - bus' light, Seal'd on her silk - saft faulds to

A rest, Till fley'd a - wa by Phœ - bus' light, Seal'd on her silk - saft faulds to

T rest, Till fley'd a - wa by Phœ - bus' light, Seal'd on her silk - saft faulds to

B rest, Till fley'd a - wa by Phœ - bus' light, Seal'd on her silk - saft faulds to

*cresc. e cresc.*

51

S rest, Till fley'd a - wa, till fley'd a - wa by Phœ - bus' light!

A rest, Till fley'd a - wa, till fley'd a - wa by Phœ - bus' light!

T rest, Till fley'd a - wa, till fley'd a - wa by Phœ - bus' light!

B rest, Till fley'd a - wa, till fley'd a - wa by Phœ - bus' light!

*rall.*

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David Anderson  
SHORCHOR Music  
1706 NE 177th St.  
Shoreline, WA 98155 USA

