



Shakespeare Songs
No. 5



Who is Sylvia

George A. Macfarren
(1813-1887)

Sir George Alexander Macfarren (1813-1887) was born in London. From early youth, he suffered from poor health and weak eyesight. His eyesight continually deteriorated until he became totally blind in 1860. However, his blindness had little effect on his productivity. Macfarren began to study music when he was fourteen and, at sixteen, entered the Royal Academy of Music. Because of his eyesight, he abandoned performance and concentrated on composition. He later taught at the Academy, eventually becoming a principal. He was also appointed professor of music at Cambridge University in 1875. He was conductor at Covent Garden, London; founder the Handel Society; program note writer for the Philharmonic Society; and editor of *Handel and Purcell*. He wrote 18 operas, 13 oratorios and cantatas, 9 symphonies, and 162 songs. He was active as writer of part-songs, literature for the many amateur choirs appearing throughout the country. He was knighted in 1883 on the same day as Arthur Sullivan and George Grove. His brother Walter Macfarren (1826-1905) was a pianist, composer and professor of the Royal Academy.

Who is Silvia? what is she,
That all our swains commend her?
Who is Silvia? what is she?
Holy, fair and wise is she;
The heavens such grace did lend her,
That she might admired be.

Is she kind as she is fair?
For beauty lives with kindness.
Love doth to her eyes repair,
To help him of his blindness;
And, being helped, inhabits there.

Then to Silvia let us sing,
That Silvia is excelling;
She excels each mortal thing
Upon the dull earth dwelling;
To her let us garlands bring.

Two Gentlemen of Verona
William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

Who is Sylvia

G. A. Macfarren

Andante con moto $\text{♩} = 80$

Tr1 *p* Who is Syl - via? what is she, That all our swains com - mend her? *cresc.* *f* *dim.* *>*

Tr2 *p* Who is Syl - via? what is she, That all our swains com - mend her? Who_ is *cresc.* *f* *dim.* *>* *p*

T *p* Who is Syl - via? what is she, That all our swains com - mend her? Who_ is *cresc.* *f* *dim.* *>* *p*

B *p* Who is Syl - via? what is she, That all our swains com - mend her? *cresc.* *f* *dim.* *>*

Tr1 *p* Who_ is Syl - via? what is she? Ho - ly, fair, and wise is *pp*

Tr2 *p* Syl - via, Syl - via? what is she? Ho - ly, fair, and wise is *pp*

T *p* Syl - via, Syl - via? what is she? Ho - ly, fair, and wise is *pp*

B *p* Who_ is Syl - via? what is she? Ho - ly, fair, and wise is *pp*

Tr1 *cresc.* she; The hea - vens such grace did lend her, That *f* *p*

Tr2 *cresc.* she; The heav'ns such grace did lend her, That *f* *p*

T *cresc.* she; The heav'ns such grace did lend her, That *f* *p*

B *cresc.* she; The heav'ns such grace did lend her, did lend her, That *f* *p*

Who is Sylvia

17

Tr1 she might ad - mir - ed be, That she might ad -

Tr2 she might ad - mir - ed be, That she might ad -

T she might ad - mir - ed be, That she might ad -

B she might ad - mir - ed be, That she might ad -

22

Tr1 mir - ed be. Is she kind as she is fair? For

Tr2 mir - ed be. Is she kind as she is fair? For

T mir - ed be. Is she kind as she is fair? For

B mir - ed be. Is she kind as she is fair? For

27

Tr1 beau - ty lives with kind - ness: Is she kind as she is

Tr2 beau - ty lives with kind - ness: Is she kind, kind as she is

T beau - ty lives with kind - ness: Is she, Is she kind as she is

B beau - ty lives with kind - ness: Is she kind as she is

Who is Sylvia

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Tr1 fair? Love doth to her eyes re - pair To

Tr2 fair? Love doth to her eyes re - pair To

T fair? Love doth to her eyes re - pair To

B fair? Love doth to her eyes re - pair To

pp *cresc.*

37

Tr1 help him of his blind - ness; And be - ing help'd, in -

Tr2 help him of his blind - ness; And be - ing help'd, in -

T help him of his blind - ness; And be - ing help'd, in -

B help him of his blind - ness, his blind - ness; And be - ing help'd, in -

f *p* *mf*

42

Tr1 ha - bits there, be - ing help'd, in - ha - bits there.

Tr2 ha - bits there, be - ing help'd, in - ha - bits there.

T ha - bits there, be - ing help'd, in - ha - bits there.

B ha - bits there, be - ing help'd, in - ha - bits there.

cresc. *f*

Who is Sylvia

Tr1 *ff* Then to Syl - via let us sing, That Syl - via is ex - cel - ling; *sf*

Tr2 *ff* Then to Syl - via let us sing, That Syl - via is ex - cel - ling; *sf*

T *ff* Then to Syl - via let us sing, That Syl - via is ex - cel - ling; *sf*

B *ff* Then to Syl - via let us sing, That Syl - via is ex - cel - ling; She ex -

53

Tr1 She ex - cels each mor - tal thing Up - on the dull earth

Tr2 She ex - cels each mor - tal thing Up - on the dull earth

T *8* She ex - cels each mor - tal thing Up - on the dull earth

B cels each mor - tal thing Up - on the dull earth

56

Tr1 dwell - ing; She ex - cels, Up -

Tr2 dwell - ing; She ex - cels each nor - tal thing Up -

T *8* dwell - ing; She ex - cels each mor - tal thing Up -

B dwell - ing; She ex - cels each mor - tal thing Up -

Who is Sylvia

59

Tr1 on the dull earth dwell - ing; To her let us gar - lands

Tr2 on the dull earth dwell - ing; To her let us gar - lands

T on the dull earth dwell - ing; To her let us gar - lands

B on the dull earth dwell - ing; To her let us gar - lands

63

Tr1 bring, To her let us gar - lands bring,

Tr2 bring, To her let us gar - lands bring,

T bring, To her let us gar - lands bring,

B bring, To her let us gar - lands bring,

68

Tr1 To her let us gar - - - lands bring.

Tr2 To her let us gar - - - lands bring.

T To her let us gar - - - lands bring.

B To her let us gar - - - lands bring.

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