



# **It was a Lover**

**Joseph C. Bridge**  
**(1853-1929)**

# It was a Lover

J. C. Bridge

**Allegro vivace**

S *mf* It was a lov - er and his lass, With a hey, and a ho, and a hey non-ny no, That  
A *mf* It was a lov - er and his lass, With a hey, and a ho, and a hey non-ny no, That  
T *mf* It was a lov - er and his lass, With a hey, and a ho, and a hey non-ny no, That  
B *mf* It was a lov - er and his lass, With a hey, and a ho, and a hey non-ny no, That

5  
S *f* o'er the green corn - fields did pass In the spring time, the spring time, The  
A *f* o'er the green corn - fields did pass In the spring time, the spring time, The  
T *f* o'er the green corn - fields did pass In the spring time, the spring time, The  
B *f* o'er the green corn - fields did pass In the spring time, the spring time, The

# It was a Lover

9

S on - ly pret - ty ring time, When the birds do sing, Hey ding a ding ding;

A on - ly pret - ty ring time, When the birds do sing, Hey ding a ding ding; Sweet

T on - ly pret - ty ring time, When the birds do sing,

B on - ly pret - ty ring time, When the birds do sing, Sweet

13

S Sweet lov - ers love the spring, With a hey non - ny, non - ny,

A lov - ers love the spring, With a hey non - ny, non - ny,

T lov - ers love the spring, With a hey non - ny, non - ny, non - ny no, with a

B lov - ers love the spring, ho, ho, ho, ho,

17

S non - ny no, with a hey non - ny, non - ny, non - ny no, with a hey, and ho,

A non - ny no, with a hey non - ny, non - ny, non - ny no, with a hey, ho,

T hey non - ny, non - ny, non - ny no, with a hey non - ny, non - ny, non - ny no,

B ho, ho, ho, ho, ho, ho, ho, ho,

## It was a Lover

21

S non - ny no, — with a hey, and a ho, — and a hey non - ny no. hey non - ny no.

A non - ny no, — with a hey, and ho, — and a hey non - ny no. hey non - ny no.

T

B ho, ho, hey, and ho, — and a hey non - ny no. hey non - ny no.

*ff* *repeat pp* 1. *repeat pp* 2.

25

S Be - tween the a - cres of the rye, These pret - ty coun - try folks would lie With a

A Be - tween the a - cres of the rye, These pret - ty coun - try folks would lie With a

T Be - tween the rye, — These folks would lie With a

B Be - tween the rye, These folks would lie With a

*p*

30

S hey, and a ho, and a hey non - ny no, hey non - ny no, When the

A hey, and a ho, and a hey non - ny no, hey, hey — non - ny — no, — When the

T hey, and a ho, — and a hey non - ny no, hey non - ny no,

B hey, and a ho, and a hey non - ny no, — non - ny no,

*f* *p*

# It was a Lover

34

S birds do sing, When the birds do sing,

A birds do sing, When the birds do sing,

T Hey — ding a ding a ding, Hey —

B Hey — ding a ding a ding, Hey —

37

S Sweet lov - ers love the

A Sweet lov - ers love the

T ding a ding a ding; Sweet lov - ers, lov - ers love the

B ding a ding a ding; Sweet lov - ers, lov - ers love the

41

S spring, with a hey non - ny, non - ny, non - ny no, with a

A spring, with a hey non - ny, non - ny, non - ny no, with a

T spring, with a hey non - ny, non - ny, non - ny no, with a hey non - ny, non - ny

B spring, ho, ho, ho, ho, ho, ho,

## It was a Lover

45

S hey non - ny, non - ny non - ny no, with a hey, and ho,

A hey non - ny, non - ny non - ny no, with a hey, ho,

T non - ny no, with a hey non - ny, non - ny non - ny no,

B ho, ho, ho, ho, ho,

*cresc.*

48

S non - ny no, hey, and a ho, and a hey non - ny no.

A non - ny no, hey, and ho, and a hey non - ny no.

T hey non - ny no.

B hey, and ho, and a hey non - ny no.

*ff*

S This car - ol they be - gan that hour, With a hey, and a ho, and a hey non - ny no,

A This car - ol they be - gan that hour, With a hey, and a ho, and a hey non - ny no,

T This car - ol they be - gan that hour, With a hey, and a ho, and a hey non - ny no,

B This car - ol they be - gan that hour, With a hey, and a ho, and a hey non - ny no,

*f* *pp*

# It was a Lover

55

S How that a life was but a flow'r, In spring time, in spring time, The

A How that a life was but a flow'r, In spring time, in spring time, The

T How that a life was but a flow'r, In spring time, in spring time, The

B How that a life was but a flow'r, In spring time, in spring time, The

59

S on - ly pret - ty ring time, When birds do sing, Hey ding a ding ding, When

A on - ly pret - ty ring time, When birds do sing, Hey ding a ding ding, When

T on - ly pret - ty ring time, When birds do sing, Hey ding a ding ding, When

B on - ly pret - ty ring time, When birds do sing, Hey ding a ding ding, When

63

S birds do sing, Hey ding a ding ding; Sweet lov - ers love the spring, sweet

A birds do sing, Hey ding a ding ding; Sweet lov - ers love the spring, sweet

T birds do sing, Hey ding a ding ding; Sweet lov - ers love the spring, sweet

B birds do sing, Hey ding a ding ding; Sweet lov - ers love the spring, sweet

## It was a Lover

67

S lov - ers love the spring. With a hey, and a ho, and a hey non - ny no, with a

A lov - ers love the spring. With a hey, and a ho, and a hey non - ny no, with a

T lov - ers love the spring. With hey ho, hey ho, with

B lov - ers love the spring. With hey ho, hey ho, with

*pp*

71

S hey, with a hey, and a ho, with a hey, and a ho, and a

A hey, with a hey, and a ho, with a hey, and a ho, and a

T hey ho, hey ho, hey ho, hey ho,

B hey ho, with hey ho, hey ho, hey ho,

*cresc.*

74

S hey non - ny no, with a hey, with a hey, and a ho,

A hey non - ny no, with a hey, with a hey, and a ho, And there - fore take the

T ho, hey ho, hey ho, And there - fore take the

B ho, hey ho, hey ho, there - fore

*ff* *mf*



# It was a Lover

78

S hey ho, hey ho. And there - fore take the

A pres - ent time, For love is crown - ed with the prime, And there - fore take the

T pres - ent time, For love is crown - ed with the prime, And there - fore take the

B take time the pres - ent time, And there - fore take the

*mf* *cresc.*

82

S pres - ent time, For love is crown - ed with the prime.

A pres - ent time, For love is crown - ed with the prime.

T pres - ent time, For love is crown - ed with the prime.

B pres - ent time, For love is crown - ed with the prime.

*f* *rall.*

S It was a lov - er and his lass, With a hey, and a ho, and a hey non-ny no, That

A It was a lov - er and his lass, With a hey, and a ho, and a hey non-ny no, That

T It was a lov - er and his lass, With a hey, and a ho, and a hey non-ny no, That

B It was a lov - er and his lass, With a hey, and a ho, and a hey non-ny no, That

*pp* *a tempo*

## It was a Lover

89

S o'er the green corn - fields did pass In the spring time, the spring time, The

A o'er the green corn - fields did pass In the spring time, the spring time, The

T o'er the green corn - fields did pass In the spring time, the spring time, The

B o'er the green corn - fields did pass In the spring time, the spring time, The

93

S on - ly pret - ty ring time, *cresc.* When the birds do sing, Hey ding a ding ding;

A on - ly pret - ty ring time, *cresc.* When the birds do sing, Hey ding a ding ding; Sweet

T on - ly pret - ty ring time, *cresc.* When the birds do sing,

B on - ly pret - ty ring time, *cresc.* When the birds do sing, Sweet

97

S Sweet lov - ers love the spring, With a hey non - ny, non - ny,

A lov - ers love the spring, With a hey non - ny, non - ny,

T lov - ers love the spring, With a hey non - ny, non - ny, non - ny no, with a

B lov - ers love the spring, ho, ho, ho, ho,

# It was a Lover

101

S non - ny no, with a hey non - ny, non - ny, non - ny no, with a hey, and ho, *cresc.*

A non - ny no, with a hey non - ny, non - ny, non - ny no, with a hey, ho, *cresc.*

T hey non - ny, non - ny, non - ny no, with a hey non - ny, non - ny, non - ny no, *cresc.*

B ho, ho, ho, ho, ho, ho, ho, ho, *cresc.*

105

S non - ny no, with a hey, and a ho, and a hey non - ny no. *f* *rall.* *ff*

A non - ny no, with a hey, and ho, and a hey non - ny no. *f* *rall.* *ff*

T *ff* *rall.* hey non - ny no.

B *f* *rall.* *ff* ho, ho, hey, and ho, and a hey non - ny no.

It was a lover and his lass,  
 With a hey, and a ho, and a hey nonny no,  
 That o'er the green cornfields did pass  
 In the spring time,  
 The only pretty ring time,  
 When the birds do sing,  
 Hey ding a ding a ding;  
 Sweet lovers love the spring,  
 Ding a ding a ding.

Between the acres of the rye,  
 With a hey and a ho, and a hey nonny no,  
 These pretty country folks would lie  
 In spring time,  
 The only pretty ring time,  
 When birds do sing,  
 Ding a ding a ding;  
 Sweet lovers love the spring,  
 Ding a ding a ding.

This carol they began that hour,  
 With a hey, and a ho, and a hey nonny no,  
 How that a life was but a flow'r,  
 In spring time,  
 The only pretty ring time,  
 When birds do sing,  
 Ding a ding a ding;  
 Sweet lovers love the spring,  
 Ding a ding a ding.

And therefore take the present time,  
 With a hey, and a ho, and a hey nonny no,  
 For love is crowned with the prime,  
 In spring time,  
 The only pretty ring time,  
 When birds do sing,  
 Ding a ding a ding;  
 Sweet lovers love the spring,  
 Ding a ding a ding.

*As You Like It*  
 Act 5, Scene 3  
 William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

**Joseph Cox Bridge** (1853-1929) was born at Rochester, England. His musical training was at Rochester Cathedral where he became assistant organist. He also served as assistant organist at Manchester Cathedral under his brother Sir John Frederick Bridge. He trained at Oxford and was organist of Exeter College, Oxford. He held positions as Organist of Chester Cathedral and Conductor of the Bradford Festival Choral Society. His compositions include an oratorio; “Magnificat” and “Nunc Dimittis” for voices, orchestra, and organ, produced at the Chester Festivals; a cantata, a symphony, an operetta, works for organ, anthems, works for piano, songs, and part-songs. He also completed numerous transcriptions for the organ.

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