



Oh, were I but a drop of dew

William H. Cummings
(1831-1915)

S *p* Oh, were I but a drop of dew, _____ A pearl up - on the snow - drop

A *p* Oh, were I but a drop of dew, _____ A pearl up - on the snow - drop

T *p* Oh, were I but a drop of dew, _____ A pearl up - on the snow - drop

B *p* Oh, were I but a drop of dew, _____ A pearl up - on the snow - drop

8
S *cresc.* *p* small: Sus - pend - ed o'er one bos - om true - I know where

A *cresc.* *p* small: o'er one bos - om true - I know where

T *cresc.* *p* small: Sus - pend - ed o'er one bos - om true - I know where

B *cresc.* *p* small: o'er one bos - om true - I know where

Oh, were I but a drop of dew

14

S I would love — to fall. Were I a moon - beam of the night,

A I would love — to fall. Were I a moon - beam of the night,

T I would love to fall. Were I a moon - beam of the night,

B I would love — to fall. Were I a moon - beam of the night,

21

S That wan - ders thro' the si - lent — air: With kiss - es white would

A thro' the si - lent air: With kiss - es white would

T thro' the si - lent air: With kiss - es white would

B With kiss - es white

27

S I a - light Up - on one sleep - ing fore - head fair. Were

A I a - light Up - on one sleep - ing fore - head fair. Were

T I a - light Up - on one sleep - ing fore - head fair. Were

B would I a - light Up - on one sleep - ing fore - head fair. Were

Oh, were I but a drop of dew

34

S I a rose, had I the pow'r, *cresc.* Yet sweet - er ros - es would I *p*

A I a rose, had I the pow'r, *cresc.* Yet sweet - er ros - es would I *p*

T I a rose, had I the pow'r, *cresc.* Yet sweet - er ros - es would I *p*

B I a rose, had I the pow'r, *cresc.* Yet sweet - er ros - es would I *p*

40

S seek, And there would wave from hour to hour, And dash the

A seek, wave from hour to hour, And dash the

T seek, And there would wave from hour to hour, And dash the

B seek, wave from hour to hour, And dash the

46

S dew's up - on her cheek, *cresc.* up - on her cheek. *p*

A dew's up - on her cheek, and dash the dew's up - on her cheek. *cresc.* *p*

T dew's up - on her cheek, *cresc.* up - on her cheek. *p*

B dew's up - on her cheek, and dash the dew's up - on her cheek. *cresc.* *p*

William Hayman Cummings (1831-1915) was born in Sidbury, Devon, England. He was chorister at St. Paul's Cathedral and sang in the choir of the Temple Church. He became a celebrated tenor vocalist, composer, conductor and writer. He appeared in opera at the Gaiety Theatre, and later at Drury Lane and elsewhere. He held positions at Westminster Abbey, and the Chapel Royal, and was organist at Waltham Abbey. He was professor of the Royal Academy of Music, at the Royal Normal College for the Blind, and taught at the Guildhall School, where he also became principal. He was conductor of the Sacred Harmonic Society and was active as lecturer. He authored *The Rudiments of Music* (1877), *Purcell* (Great Musicians' series, 1882), *Biographical Dictionary of Musicians* (1892), and contributed to *Grove's Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, the *Dictionary of National Biography*, and musical periodicals. He died in London. His compositions include cantatas, anthems, responses, chants, glees, part-songs, and songs.

Oh, were I but a drop of dew,
A pearl upon the snowdrop small:
Suspended o'er one bosom true—
I know where I would love to fall.

Were I a moonbeam of the night,
That wanders through the silent air:
With kisses white would I alight
Upon one sleeping forehead fair.

Were I a rose, had I the power,
Yet sweeter roses would I seek,
And there would wave from hour to hour,
And dash the dews upon her cheek.

Richard Howitt (1799-1869)

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