



**V I C T O R I A N   W O M E N**

**To Blossoms**

**Gertrude Hine**

**(1854-1946)**

**Gertrude Mary Hine** (1854-1946) was born in Kentish Town, England, daughter of the eminent landscape painter Henry George Hine (1811-1895). Living in Hampstead, London, she became a respected musician, known as a soloist and composer, especially in conjunction with the Hampstead Choral Society. Her compositions are mostly songs and part songs, with her most popular compositions being a set of nursery rhymes. In 1884, she married Alfred Robert With (1852-1921). Among her nine sisters and four brothers were Harry Hine, a member of the *Institute of Painters in Water-colours*, William Egerton Hine, art master at Harrow School, and Maud Egerton Hine (1867-1927) who often collaborated as lyricist. She died in Hampshire, England.

Fair pledges of a fruitful tree,  
Why do ye fall so fast?  
Your date is not so past  
But you may stay yet here awhile  
To blush and gently smile,  
And go at last.

What! were ye born to be  
An hour or half's delight,  
And so to bid good night?  
'Twas pity Nature brought you forth  
Merely to show your worth  
And lose you quite.

But you are lovely leaves, where we  
May read how soon things have  
Their end, though ne'er so brave:  
And after they have shown their pride  
Like you awhile, they glide  
Into the grave.

Robert Herrick (1591-1674)

NOTE: In line 3, original Novello publication reverses two words of Herrick's poem:  
But you may stay here yet awhile."

# To Blossoms

Gertrude Hine

S Fair pled - ges of a fruit - ful tree, Why do ye fall so fast? Your

A Fair pled - ges of a fruit - ful tree, Why do ye fall so fast? Your

T Fair pled - ges of a fruit - ful tree, Why do ye fall so fast? Your

B Fair pled - ges of a fruit - ful tree, Why do ye fall so fast? Your

S date is not so past But you may stay yet here a - while, yet

A date is not so past But you may stay yet here a - while, yet

T date is not so past But you may stay yet here a - while, yet

B date is not so past But you may stay yet here a - while, yet

# To Blossoms

10

S here a - while To blush and gent - ly smile, To

A here a - while To blush and gent - ly smile, To

T here a - while To blush and gent - ly smile, To

B here a - while To blush and gent - ly smile, To

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S *dim.* blush and gent - ly smile, To blush and smile, And go at last. *dim.*

A *dim.* blush and gent - ly smile, To blush and smile, And go at last. *dim.*

T *dim.* blush and gent - ly smile, To blush and smile, And go at last. *dim.*

B *dim.* blush and gent - ly smile, To blush and smile, And go at last. *dim.*

*rall. cresc. f*

S *mf* What! were ye born to be An hour or half's de - light, An

A *mf* What! were ye born to be An hour or half's de - light, An

T *mf* What! were ye born to be An hour or half's de - light, An

B *mf* What! were ye born to be An hour or half's de - light, An

*cresc.*

# To Blossoms

5

23

S hour or half's de - light, \_\_\_\_\_ And so to bid good night? \_\_\_\_\_ And

A hour or half's de - light, \_\_\_\_\_ And so to bid good night? \_\_\_\_\_ And

T hour or half's de - light, \_\_\_\_\_ And so to bid good night? \_\_\_\_\_ And

B hour or half's de - light, \_\_\_\_\_ And so to bid good night? \_\_\_\_\_ And

*dim.* *p*

27

S so to bid good night? 'Twas pit - y Na - ture brought you forth \_\_\_\_\_

A so to bid good night, good night? 'Twas pit - y Na - ture brought you forth

T so to bid good night, good night? 'Twas pit - y Na - ture brought you forth

B so to bid good night, good night? 'Twas pit - y Na - ture brought you forth

*pp* *p*

31

S Mere - ly to show, to \_\_\_\_\_ show your worth \_\_\_\_\_ And lose you quite.

A Mere - ly to show, to \_\_\_\_\_ show your worth \_\_\_\_\_ And lose you quite.

T Mere - ly to show your \_\_\_\_\_ worth \_\_\_\_\_ And lose you quite.

B \_\_\_\_\_ And lose you quite.

*mf* *dim.*

# To Blossoms

S But you are love - ly leaves, where we May read how soon things

A But you are love - ly leaves, where we May read how soon things

T But you are love - ly leaves, where we May read how soon things

B But you are love - ly leaves, where we May read how soon things

38

S have Their end, their end, tho' ne'er so brave: And af - ter they have

A have Their end, tho' ne'er so brave: And af - ter they have

T have Their end, tho' ne'er so brave: And af - ter they have

B have Their end, tho' ne'er so brave: And af - ter they have

42

S shown their pride, have shown their pride Like you a - while, they

A shown their pride, have shown their pride Like you a - while, they

T shown their pride, have shown their pride Like you a - while, they

B shown their pride, have shown their pride Like you a - while, they

# To Blossoms

7

46

S glide, Like you a - while, they glide, like *rall.*

A glide, Like you a - while, they glide, like *rall.*

T glide, Like you a - while, they glide, like *rall.*

B glide, Like you a - while, they glide, like *rall.*

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S you they glide In - to the grave. *pp rall.*

A you they glide In - to the grave. *pp rall.*

T you they glide In - to the grave. *pp rall.*

B you they glide In - to the grave. *pp rall.*

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