



Ye little birds
that
sit and sing

Richard Mann
(1837-1869)

Ye little birds that sit and sing

Richard Mann

Allegro vivace ♩ = 126

S
Ye lit - tle birds that sit and sing A - midst the sha - dy - val - leys, And

A
Ye lit - tle birds that sing A - midst the sha - dy val - leys, And

T
Ye lit - tle birds that sing A - midst the sha - dy val - leys, And

B
That sing A - midst the sha - dy - val - leys,

S
see how Phil - lis sweet - ly walks With - in her gar - den - al - leys; Go,

A
see how Phil - lis sweet - ly walks With - in her gar - den - al - leys; Go,

T
see how Phil - lis sweet - ly walks With - in her gar - den - al - leys; Go,

B
How Phil - lis sweet - ly walks With - in her gar - den - al - leys;

S
pret - ty birds, a - bout her bower,

A
pret - ty birds, a - bout her bower, Go,

T
pret - ty birds, a - bout her bower, Sing, pret - ty birds, she may not lower; Go,

B
Sing, pret - ty birds, she may not lower; Go,

The little birds that sit and sing

14

S Sing, — pret - ty birds, pret - ty birds, she may not lower; Ah, me! me - thinks I

A — pret - ty birds, Sing, pret - ty — birds, she may not lower; Ah, me! me - thinks I

T 8 pret - ty birds, Sing, pret - ty — birds, she may not lower; Ah, me! me - thinks I

B pret - ty birds, Sing, pret - ty — birds, she may not lower;

18

S see her frown, Ah, me! me - thinks I see her frown! Ye pret - ty wan - tons,

A see her frown, Ah, me! me - thinks I see her frown! Ye wan - tons,

T 8 see her frown! Ye wan - tons,

B Ah, me! Ah, me! me - thinks I see her frown!

22

S war - ble, Ye pret - ty wan - tons, war - ble.

A war - ble, Ye wan - tons, war - ble.

T 8 war - ble, Ye pret - ty, pret - ty wan - tons, war - ble.

B Ye pret - ty wan - tons, war - ble.

The little birds that sit and sing

S Go, tell her through your chirp - ing bills, As you by me are bid - den, To

A Go, tell her through your bills, As you by me are bid - den, To

T 8 Go, tell her through your bills, As you by me are bid - den, To

B Go, tell As you by me are bid - den,

S 30 her is on - ly known my love, Which from the world is hid - den. Go,

A her is on - ly known my love, Which from the world is hid - den. Go,

T 8 her is on - ly known my love, Which from the world is hid - den. Go,

B is on - ly known my love, Which from the world is hid - den.

S 34 pret - ty birds and tell her so;

A pret - ty birds and tell her so; Go, —

T 8 pret - ty birds and tell her so; See that your notes strain not too low, Go,

B See that your notes strain not too low, Go,

Ye little birds that sit and sing

38

S See _____ that your notes, your notes strain not too low, For still, me - thinks I

A _____ pret - ty birds, See that your notes strain not too low, For still, me - thinks I

T 8 pret - ty birds, See_ that your notes strain not_ too low, For still, me - thinks I

B pret - ty birds, See that your notes strain not too low,

42

S see her frown, For still, me - thinks I see her frown; Ye pret - ty wan - tons,

A see her frown, For still, me - thinks I see her frown; Ye wan - tons,

T 8 see her frown; Ye wan - tons,

B For still, for still, me - thinks I see her frown;

46

S war - ble, Ye pret - ty wan - tons, war - ble.

A war - ble, Ye wan - tons, war - ble.

T 8 war - ble, Ye pret - ty, pret - ty wan - tons, war - ble.

B Ye pret - ty wan - tons, war - ble.

The little birds that sit and sing

50

S Oh, fly! make haste! see, see she falls In - to a pret - ty slum - ber. Sing

A Oh, fly! make haste! she falls In - to a pret - ty slum - ber. Sing

T 8 Oh, fly! make haste! she falls In - to a pret - ty slum - ber. Sing

B She falls In - to a pret - ty slum - ber.

55

S round a - bout her ro - sy bed That, wak - ing, she may won - der. Sing

A round a - bout her ro - sy bed That, wak - ing, she may won - der. Sing

T 8 round a - bout her ro - sy bed That, wak - ing, she may won - der. Sing

B a - bout her ro - sy bed That, wak - ing, she may won - der.

59

S to her, 'tis her lo - ver true

A to her, 'tis her lo - ver true Her

T 8 to her, 'tis her lo - ver true That send - eth love to you, to you; Her

B That send - eth love to you, to you; Her

63

S That send-eth, send - eth love to you, to you; And when you hear her

A lo - ver true That send - eth love to you, to you; And when you hear her

T lo - ver true That send - eth love to you, to you; And when you hear her

B lo - ver true That send - eth love to you, to you;

67

S kind re - ply, And when you hear her kind re - ply, Re - turn with plea - sant

A kind re - ply, And when you hear her kind re - ply, Re - turn with

T kind re - ply, Re - turn with

B And when, and when you hear her kind re - ply,

71

S war - blings, Re - turn with plea - sant war - blings.

A war - blings, with plea - sant war - blings.

T war - blings, Re - turn, re - turn with plea - sant war - blings.

B Re - turn with plea - sant war - blings.

Richard Mann (1837-1869) was born in England and studied under Rev. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890) with the Chapel Royal. Mann was an organist and choirmaster. During his career, he was Inspector of Choirs in the Archdeaconry of Shropshire; an organist in Cirencester, Gloucestershire; and conductor of the Cirencester Choral Society. He also authored “A manual of singing. For the use of choir-trainers & schoolmasters, a method of learning to sing at sight” (1866). He mainly composed anthems and other small works.

Ye little birds that sit and sing
Amidst the shady valleys,
And see how Phillis sweetly walks
Within her garden-alleys;
Go, pretty birds, about her bower,
Sing, she may not lower;
Ah, me! methinks I see her frown!
Ye pretty wantons, warble.

Go, tell her through your chirping bills,
As you by me are bidden,
To her is only known my love,
Which from the world is hidden.
Go, pretty birds and tell her so;
See that your notes strain not too low,
For still, methinks I see her frown;
Ye pretty wantons, warble.

Oh, fly! make haste! see, she falls
Into a pretty slumber.
Sing round about her rosy bed
That, waking, she may wonder.
Sing to her, 'tis her lover true
That sendeth, sendeth love to you, to you; *
And when you hear her kind reply,
Return with pleasant warblings.

Thomas Heywood (ca. 1570-1641)
Originally published in *Fair Maid of the Exchange* (1607).

* Novello publication has “love by you and you”

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