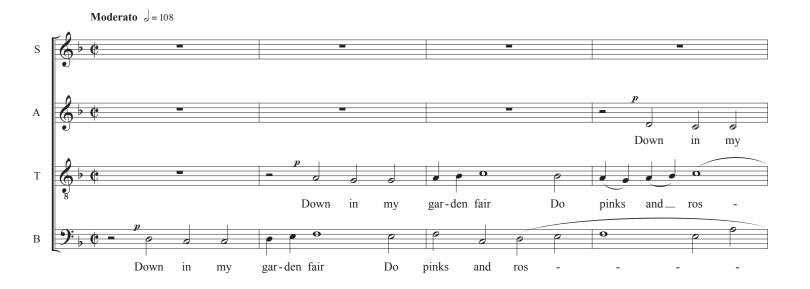
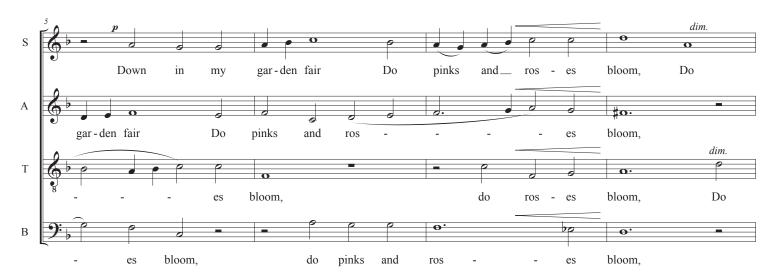


Robert Lucas Pearsall (1795-1856)

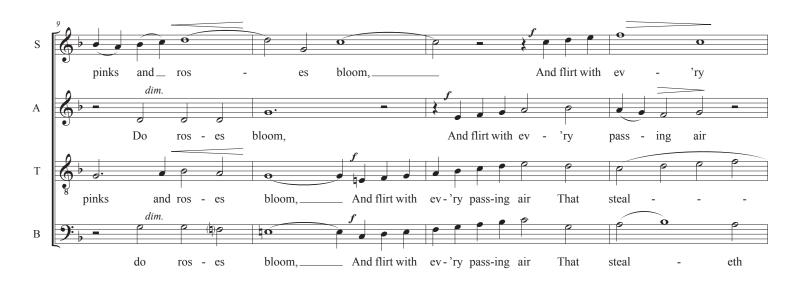
Robert L. Pearsall

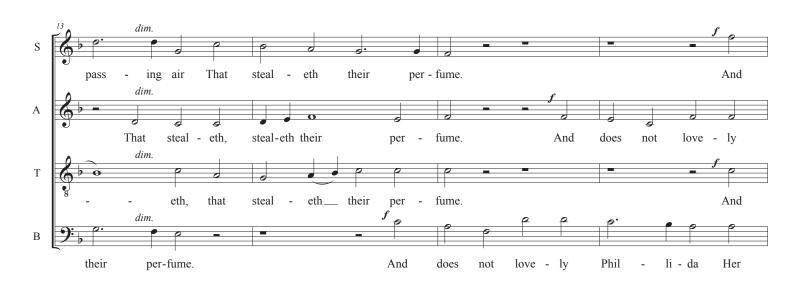


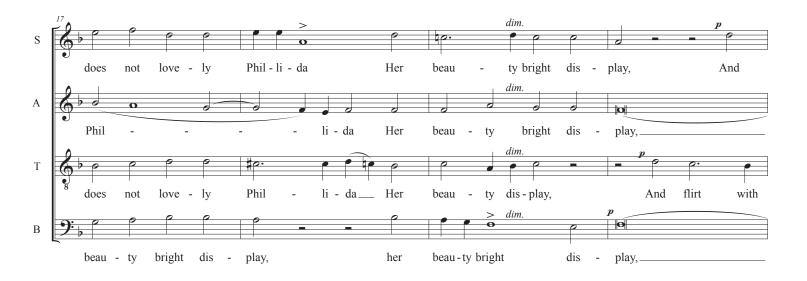


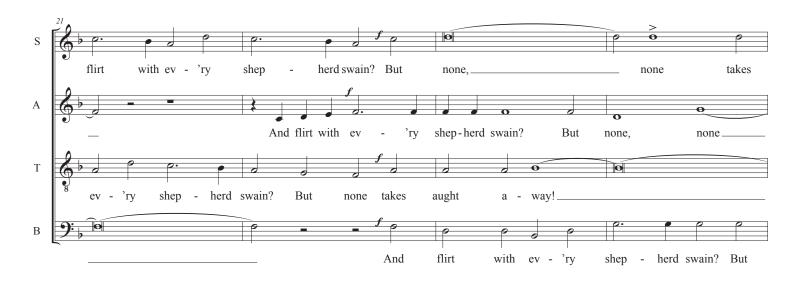


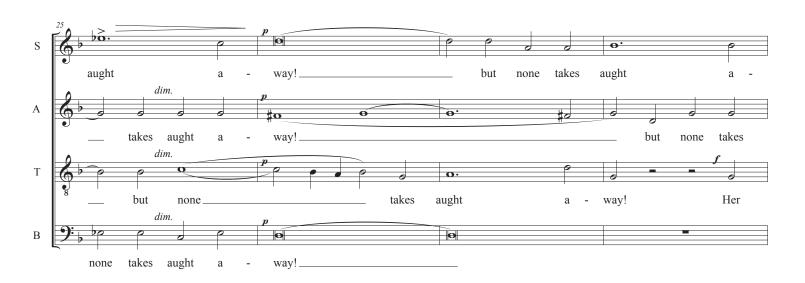
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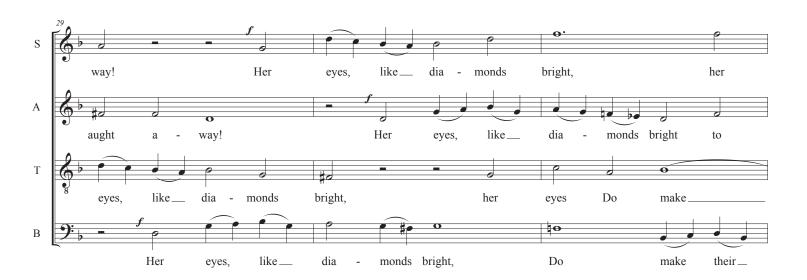


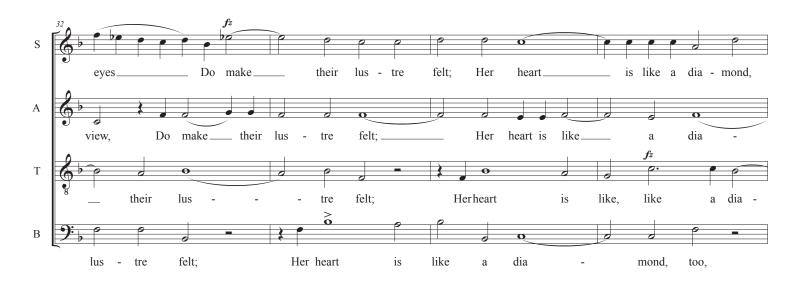


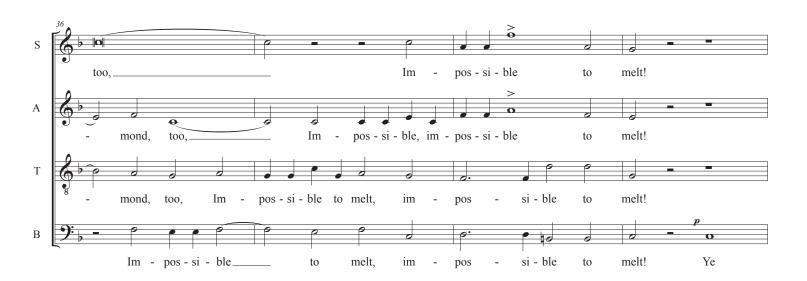


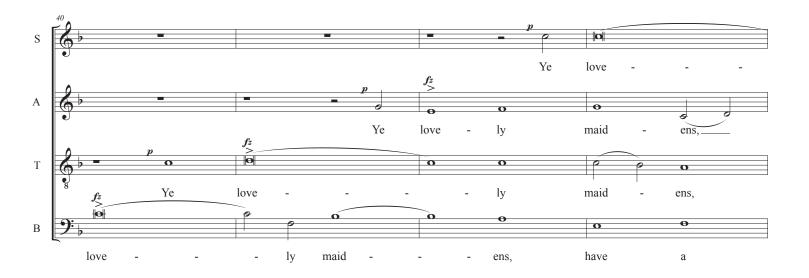


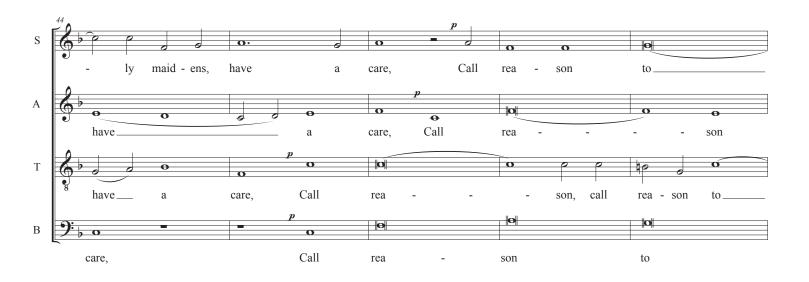


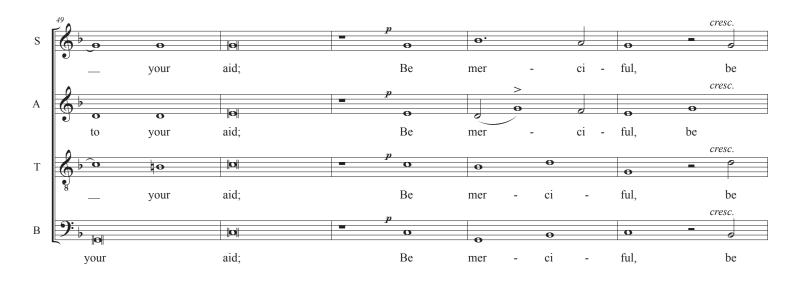


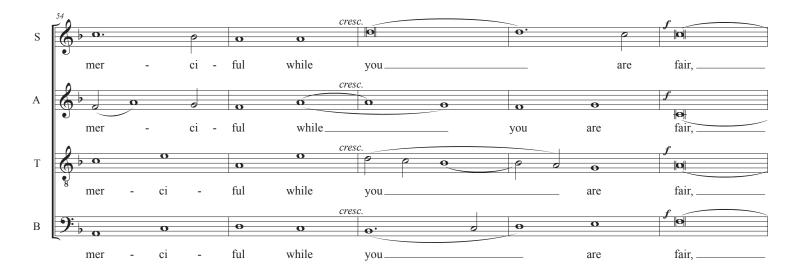


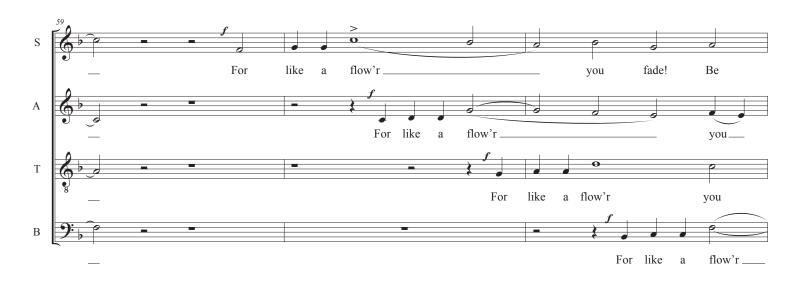


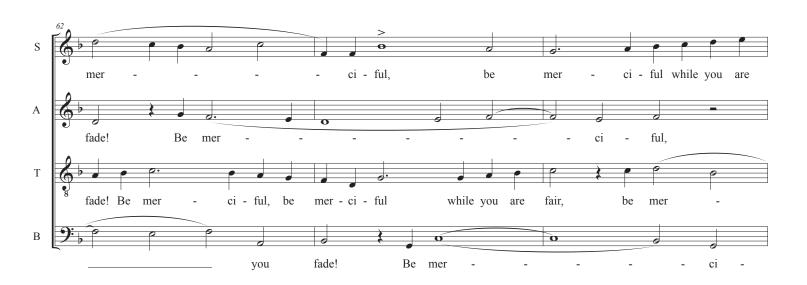


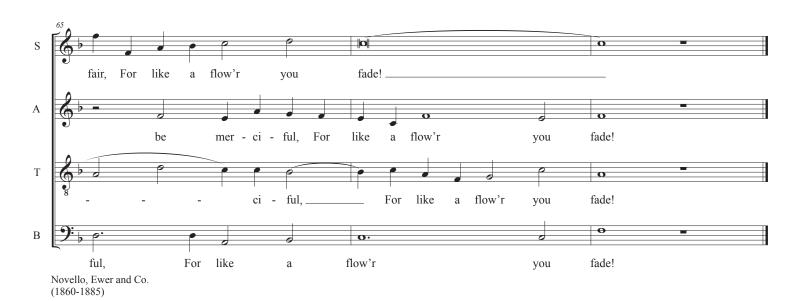












Robert Lucas Pearsall (1795-1856) was born at Clifton Hill, Bristol, into a wealthy Quaker family. His father was an army officer and amateur musician. He was privately educated and practiced as a barrister in Bristol. In 1825, after suffering a stroke, he took his family to live abroad. He sold the family estate in Willsbridge and, in 1842, bought the Schloss Wartensee, a ruined medieval keep near Rorschach in Switzerland and spent several years restoring it. He remained there until his death. Pearsall was an amateur composer and many of his compositions were not published until after his death. He is best remembered for his part-songs and madrigals but also wrote orchestral works, anthems, services, musical treatises, and edited a Catholic hymnal. He kept in touch with his home city of Bristol and wrote many pieces for the Bristol Madrigal Society. He also composed poetry, some of which he used for his madrigals, such as 'Why Do the Roses' and 'Why should the cuckoo's tuneful note'. The particle "de" often spelled in his name is a feature added after his death by his daughter Philippa.

Down in my garden fair Do pinks and roses bloom, And flirt with every passing air That stealeth their perfume.

And does not lovely Phillida Her beauty bright display, And flirt with every shepherd swain? But none takes aught away!

Her eyes, like diamonds bright to view, Do make their lustre felt; Her heart is like a diamond, too, Impossible to melt!

Ye lovely maidens, have a care, Call reason to your aid; Be merciful while you are fair, For like a flower you fade!

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