



The poetry of
Mary Mark-Lemon

Would You Ask
My Heart
the Reason

Ciro Pinsuti
(1829–1888)

Ciro Ercole Pinsuti, il cavaliere, (1829-1888) was born in Sinalunga, Siena, Italy, and grounded in music and piano studies by his father. His public debut was at age ten and at eleven he was made honorary member of the Accademia Filharmonica. He then studied piano, composition and violin in England for five years. Returning to Italy, he entered the Conservatorio at Bologna and was a private pupil of Rossini. He moved back to England in 1848 and became a teacher of singing. In 1856 he was appointed a professor at the Academy of Music in London. He became well known as a composer with three operas, but was especially recognized for composing over 230 songs, 35 duets, 14 trios and 45 part-songs which were great favorites with the singing societies of England. In 1878, King Humbert created him a knight of the Italian crown. He died in Florence.

Mary Kate Lemon Blaker (1853-1884) was born in St. Pancras, London, England. She authored several well-known song texts under the pseudonym Mary Mark-Lemon. Tragically, her husband Douglas Blaker died when she was only 26 and their son, born prematurely two weeks later, died within a few hours. She lived only a few years after those events and died in Wandsworth, London.

Wakes the wild wood into music?
Chant the birds with sweeter lay?
Do the flowers more sweetly mingle
With the dawning of the day?
Flows the stream with calmer cadence?
Shines the sun with ray more clear?
Would you ask my heart the reason?
It would answer, "She is near!"

Falls the rain with tearful weeping!
Do the clouds o'er spread the sea?
Flies the glory of the morning,
With its light and radiancy?
Earthborn flowers have veiled their faces,
All the birds to rest have flown,
Would you ask my heart the reason?
It would answer, "She is gone!"

Beam the stars with light more holy
On the distant sea tonight?
Does the moon, its vigil keeping,
Bathe the earth with calmer light?
In my soul their sweet reflection
Gleams with heavenly ray benign,
Would you ask my heart the reason?
It would answer, "She is mine!"

Mary Mark-Lemon
née, Mary Kate Lemon Blaker (1853-1884)

Would You Ask My Heart the Reason?

C. Pinsuti

Andantino grazioso
dolcemente

S
Wakes the wild wood in - to mu - sic? Chant the birds with sweet - er

A
Wakes the wild wood in - to mu - sic? Chant the birds with sweet - er

T
Wakes the wild wood in - to mu - sic? Chant the birds with sweet - er

B
Wakes the wild wood in - to mu - sic? Chant the birds with sweet - er

4

S
lay? — Do the flow'rs more sweet - ly min - gle With the

A
lay? Do the flow'rs more sweet - ly min - gle With the

T
lay? — Do the flow'rs more sweet - ly min - gle

B
lay? Do the flow'rs more sweet - ly min - gle



Would You Ask My Heart the Reason?

7

S *f* dawn - ing of the day? *p* Flows the stream with calm - er

A *f* dawn - ing of the day? *p* Flows the stream with calm - er

T *f* With the dawn - ing of the day? *p* Flows the stream with calm - er

B *f* With the dawn - ing of the day? *p* Flows the stream with calm - er

10

S *f* ca - dence? Shines the sun with ray more clear? *rall.* *p* Would you *a tempo*

A *f* ca - dence? Shines the sun with ray more clear? *rall.* *p* Would you *a tempo*

T *f* ca - dence? Shines the sun with ray more clear? *rall.* *p* Would you *a tempo*

B *f* ca - dence? Shines the sun with ray more clear? *rall.* *p* Would you *a tempo*

13

S *cresc.* ask my heart the rea - son? *cresc.* It would an - swer, "She is *un poco cresc.*

A *cresc.* ask my heart the rea - son? *cresc.* It would an - swer, "She is *un poco cresc.*

T *cresc.* ask my heart the rea - son? *cresc.* It would an - swer, "She is *un poco cresc.*

B *cresc.* ask my heart the rea - son? *cresc.* It would an - swer, "She is

Would You Ask My Heart the Reason?

Animando *cresc.*

S near!" _____ Would you ask my heart the rea - son? It would

A near!" _____ Would you ask my heart the rea - son? It would

T near!" _____ Would you ask my heart the rea - son? It would

B near!" _____ Would you ask my heart the rea - son? It would

dim. e rall. assai

S an - swer, "She is near!" It would an - swer, "She is near!"

A an - swer, "She is near!" It would an - swer, "She is near!"

T an - swer, "She is near!" It would an - swer, "She is near!"

B an - swer, "She is near!" It would an - swer, "She is near!"

Menno mosso

S Falls the rain with tear - ful weep - ing! Do the clouds o'er spread the

A Falls the rain with tear - ful weep - ing! Do the clouds o'er spread the

T Falls the rain with tear - ful weep - ing! Do the clouds o'er spread the

B Falls the rain with tear - ful weep - ing! Do the clouds o'er spread the

Would You Ask My Heart the Reason?

26

S sea? Flies the glo - ry of the morn - ing, With its

A sea? Flies the glo - ry of the morn - ing,

T sea? Flies the glo - ry of the morn - ing,

B sea? Flies the glo - ry of the morn - ing,

29

S light and ra - dian - cy? Earth - born flow'rs have veil'd their

A With its light and ra - dian - cy? Earth - born flow'rs have veil'd their

T With its light and ra - dian - cy? Earth - born flow'rs have veil'd their

B With its light and ra - dian - cy? Earth - born flow'rs have veil'd their

32

S fa - ces, All the birds to rest have flown, Would you

A fa - ces, All the birds to rest have flown, Would you

T fa - ces, All the birds to rest have flown, Would you

B fa - ces, All the birds to rest have flown, Would you

Would You Ask My Heart the Reason?

35 *animando e cresc.*

S ask my heart the rea - son? It would an - swer, "She is

A ask my heart the rea - son? It would an - swer, "She is

T ask my heart the rea - son? It would an - swer, "She is

B ask my heart the rea - son? It would an - swer, "She is

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

38 *f* *dim. assai*

S gone!" Would you ask my heart the rea - son? It would

A gone!" Would you ask my heart the rea - son? It would

T gone!" Would you ask my heart the rea - son? It would

B gone!" Would you ask my heart the rea - son? It would

f *dim. assai*

f *dim. assai*

f *dim. assai*

41 *p* *pp* *molto rall.*

S an - swer, "She is gone!" It would an - swer, "She is gone!"

A an - swer, "She is gone!" It would an - swer, "She is gone!"

T an - swer, "She is gone!" It would an - swer, "She is gone!"

B an - swer, "She is gone!" It would an - swer, "She is gone!"

p *pp* *molto rall.*

p *pp* *molto rall.*

p *pp* *molto rall.*

Would You Ask My Heart the Reason?

Tempo 1no

S *p* Beam the stars with light more ho - ly On the

A *p* Beam the stars with light more ho - ly On the

T *p* Beam the stars with light more ho - ly On the

B *p* Beam the stars with light more ho - ly On the

47 S dis - tant sea to - night? _____ Does the moon, its vi - gil

A dis - tant sea to - night? Does the moon, its vi - gil

T dis - tant sea to - night? _____ Does the moon, its vi - gil

B dis - tant sea to - night? Does the moon, its vi - gil

50 S keep - ing, Bathe the earth with calm - er light? In my

A keep - ing, Bathe the earth with calm - er light? In my

T keep - ing, Bathe the earth with calm - er light? In my

B keep - ing, Bathe the earth with calm - er light?

Would You Ask My Heart the Reason?

53

S soul their sweet re - flec - tion Gleams with heav'n - ly ray be -

A soul their sweet re - flec - tion Gleams with heav'n - ly ray be -

T soul their sweet re - flec - tion Gleams with heav'n - ly ray be -

B *p* In my soul their sweet re - flec - tion Gleams with heav'n - ly ray be -

f *dim. e rall.*

56

S nign, _____ Would you ask my heart the rea - son? It would

A nign, _____ Would you ask my heart the rea - son? It would

T nign, _____ Would you ask my heart the rea - son? It would

B nign, _____ Would you ask my heart the rea - son? It would

p *a tempo*

59

S an - swer, "She is mine!" _____ Would you ask my heart the

A an - swer, "She is mine!" _____ Would you ask my heart the

T an - swer, "She is mine!" _____ Would you ask my heart the

B an - swer, "She is mine!" _____ Would you ask my heart the

Animando *cresc.*

Would You Ask My Heart the Reason?

62

S
rea - son? It would an - swer, "She is mine!" It would

A
rea - son? It would an - swer, "She is mine!" It would

T
rea - son? It would an - swer, "She is mine!" It would

B
rea - son? It would an - swer, "She is mine!"

63 *Largamente*

S
an - swer, "She is mine!"

A
an - swer, "She is mine!"

T
an - swer, "She is mine!"

B
It would an - swer, "She is mine!"

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