



# I would I were the Glow-worm

AIR: LONDONDERRY

Harold William Rhodes  
(1889–1956)

Andante, con tenerezza ♩ = 69

S *pp* Ah, \_\_\_\_\_

A \_\_\_\_\_ *mf cantando* I would I

T *pp* Ah, \_\_\_\_\_ ah, \_\_\_\_\_

B *pp* Ah, \_\_\_\_\_

## I would I were the Glow-worm

3

S ah, \_\_\_\_\_

A were the glow - worm, thou the flow - er, That I might

T ah, \_\_\_\_\_ ah, \_\_\_\_\_

B ah, \_\_\_\_\_ ah, \_\_\_\_\_

5

S ah, \_\_\_\_\_

A fill thy cup with glim - m'ring light; I would I

T ah, \_\_\_\_\_

B ah, \_\_\_\_\_ ah, \_\_\_\_\_

7

S *pp* ah, \_\_\_\_\_

A were the bird, and thou the bow - er, To sing thee \_\_\_\_\_

T *pp* ah, \_\_\_\_\_ ah, \_\_\_\_\_

B *pp* ah, \_\_\_\_\_ ah, \_\_\_\_\_

# I would I were the Glow-worm

9

S ah; I would I  
A songs through - out the sum - mer night. I would I  
T ah, ah; I would I  
B ah; I would I

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of the musical score, measures 9 and 10. It features four vocal parts: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The music is in a key with two flats and a 3/4 time signature. The Soprano part begins with a long note on 'ah;' followed by 'I would I'. The Alto part has lyrics 'songs through - out the sum - mer night. I would I'. The Tenor part has 'ah, ah; I would I'. The Bass part has 'ah; I would I'. Dynamics include a forte (*f*) marking in measure 10.

11

S were a pine tree deep - ly root - ed, And thou the  
A were a pine tree deep - ly root - ed, And thou the  
T were a pine tree deep - ly root - ed, And thou the  
B were a pine tree deep - ly root - ed, And thou the

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of the musical score, measures 11 and 12. It features four vocal parts: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The lyrics are 'were a pine tree deep - ly root - ed, And thou the'. The music continues with similar melodic lines for each part. Dynamics include a forte (*f*) marking in measure 12.

13

S loft - y, cloud - be - lea - guer'd rock, Still, while the  
A loft - y, cloud - be - lea - guer'd rock, Still, while the blasts of  
T loft - y, cloud - be - lea - guer'd rock, Still, while the  
B loft - y, cloud - be - lea - guer'd rock, Still, while the blasts of

*poco rit.* *a tempo* *più f*

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of the musical score, measures 13 and 14. It features four vocal parts: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The lyrics are 'loft - y, cloud - be - lea - guer'd rock, Still, while the'. The music includes tempo markings: *poco rit.* (ritardando) and *a tempo* (return to tempo). Dynamics include a forte (*f*) marking and a *più f* (further forte) marking. The system ends with 'blasts of' followed by a line.

## I would I were the Glow-worm

15 **Poco più lento**

*meno f*

S blasts of heav'n a - round us hoot - ed, To cleave to

A heav'n a - round us hoot - ed, To *meno f*

T blasts of heav'n a - round us hoot - ed, To cleave to *meno f*

B heav'n a - round us hoot - ed, To cleave to *meno f*

17 *rit.*

S thee and weath - er ev - 'ry shock.

A cleave to thee and weath - er ev - 'ry shock. *rit.*

T thee and weath - er ev - 'ry shock. *rit.*

B thee and weath - er ev - 'ry shock. *rit.*

19 *a tempo*

S *pp* Ah, *a tempo*

A *mf cantando* I would I

T *pp* *a tempo* Ah, ah,

B *pp* *a tempo* Ah,

# I would I were the Glow-worm

Poco più animato

21

S ah,

A were the rill, and thou the riv - er; So might I,

T ah, ah,

B ah, ah,

23

S ah,

A leap - ing from some head - long steep, With all my

T ah,

B ah, ah,

*più f*

25

S ah,

A wa - ters lost in thine for ev - er, Be hur - ried

T ah, ah,

B ah, ah,

*meno p*

## I would I were the Glow-worm

27 **Tempo 1** *f*, *meno f*

S ah; I would- what

A on - wards to th'un - fath - om'd deep. I would- what

T ah, ah; I would- what

B ah; I would- what

29 *dim.* *mp*

S would I not? O fool - ish dream - ing! My words are

A would I not? O fool - ish dream - ing! My words are

T would I not? O fool - ish dream - ing! My words are

B would I not? O fool - ish dream - ing! My words are

31 *poco rit.* *a tempo* *p*

S leaves by au - tumn shed, That, in the

A but as leaves by au - tumn shed, That, in the fad - ed

T leaves by au - tumn shed, That, in the

B but as leaves by au - tumn shed, That, in the fad - ed

# I would I were the Glow-worm

33

*poco rit.* **Più lento** *dim.*

S fad - ed moon - light i - dly gleam - ing, Drop on the *dim.*

A moon - light i - dly gleam - ing, Drop *dim.*

T fad - ed moon - light i - dly gleam - ing, Drop on the *dim.*

B moon - light i - dly gleam - ing, Drop on the *dim.*

35

*rit.* **pp**

S grave where all our love lies dead.

A on the grave where all our love lies dead.

T grave where all our love, our love lies dead.

B grave where all our love lies dead.

Novello and Company  
(1921)

**Harold William Rhodes** (1889–1956) was born in England and entered the Royal College of Music at age 14, winning scholarships for organ and composition; he studied composition under Sir Charles Stanford. At age 18, he became assistant organist of St. George's Chapel, Windsor, and at 21 became Music Master at Lancing College. He became organist at St John's, Torquay and studied at the University of London. He served as Organist and Director of Music at Coventry Cathedral, then at Winchester Cathedral until his retirement. He wrote numerous articles for newspapers and journals, primarily on church music. He died in Sanderstead, Surrey. His compositions include chamber works, keyboard pieces, anthems, hymns, solo songs and part songs.

I would I were the glow-worm, thou the flower,  
That I might fill thy cup with glimmering light;  
I would I were the bird, and thou the bower,  
To sing thee songs throughout the summer night.

I would I were a pine tree deeply rooted,  
And thou the lofty, cloud-beleaguered rock,  
Still, while the blasts of heaven around us hooted,  
To cleave to thee and weather every shock.

I would I were the rill, and thou the river;  
So might I, leaping from some headlong steep,  
With all my waters lost in thine for ever,  
Be hurried onwards to the unfathomed deep.

I would—what would I not? O foolish dreaming!  
My words are but as leaves by autumn shed,  
That, in the faded moonlight idly gleaming,  
Drop on the grave where all our love lies dead.

*Love in Exile*  
Mathilde Blind (1841–1896)

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