



The
fairest flower

Robert P. Stewart
(1825-1894)

The fairest flower

R. P. Stewart

Allegro moderato $\text{♩} = 104$

S *f* The dawn of day is far a-way, Be - low the east - ern steep, *p* And

A *f* The dawn of day is far a-way, Be - low the east - ern steep, *p* And

T *f* The dawn of day is far a-way, Be - low the east - ern steep, *p* And

B *f* The dawn of day is far a-way, Be - low the east - ern steep, *p* And

6 S *cresc.* sweet and calm the dew, like balm Weighs down the flow'rs, the flow'rs in

A *cresc.* sweet and calm the dew, like balm Weighs down the flow'rs in sleep,

T *cresc.* sweet and calm the dew, like balm Weighs down the flow'rs in sleep,

B *cresc.* sweet and calm the dew, like balm Weighs down the flow'rs in



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S sleep, And sweet and calm the dew, like balm Weighs down the flow'rs in

A — And sweet and calm the dew, like balm Weighs down the flow'rs in

T — And sweet and calm the dew, like balm Weighs down the flow'rs in

B sleep, And sweet and calm — the dew, like balm Weighs down the flow'rs in

15

S sleep. But why should sleep my mis - tress keep With - in her si - lent

A sleep. But why should sleep my mis - tress keep With - in her si - lent

T sleep. But why should sleep my mis - tress keep With - in her si - lent

B sleep. — With - in her si - lent

19

S bow'r? Shine forth, and be Shine my love for me, Of

A bow'r? Shine forth, and be Shine my love for me, Of

T bow'r? Shine forth, and be Shine my love for me, Of

B bow'r? Shine forth, and be Shine my love for me, Of

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S all the fair - est flow'r, of all the fair - est flow'r.

A all the fair - est flow'r, of all the fair - est flow'r. Shine

T all the fair - est flow'r, of all the fair - est flow'r. Shine

B all the fair - est flow'r, of all the fair - est flow'r. Shine

dim. *p*

28

S

A forth, and be my love for me, Of all the fair - est flow'r.

T forth, and be my love for me, of all the fair - est flow'r.

B forth, and be the fair - - - est flow'r.

rall.

S There is no light in heav'n to - night, Save what the stars do make; If

A There is no light in heav'n to - night, Save what the stars do make; If

T There is no light in heav'n to - night, Save what the stars do make; If

B There is no light in heav'n to - night, Save what the stars do make; If

f *p*

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36

S thou wilt rise and ope thine eyes, 'Twill seem _____ like

A thou wilt rise and ope thine eyes, 'Twill seem like morn - ing's

T thou wilt rise and ope thine eyes, 'Twill seem like morn - ing's

B thou wilt rise and ope thine eyes, 'Twill seem _____ like

cresc.

40

S morn - ing's break, If thou wilt rise and ope thine eyes, 'Twill

A break, _____ If thou wilt rise and ope thine eyes, 'Twill

T break, _____ If thou wilt rise and ope thine eyes, 'Twill

B morn - ing's break, If thou wilt rise _____ and ope thine eyes, 'Twill

f

44

S seem like morn - ing's break. The blithe - some lark shall think the dark Hath

A seem like morn - ing's break. The blithe - some lark shall think the dark Hath

T seem like morn - ing's break. The blithe - some lark shall think the dark Hath

B seem like morn - ing's break. _____ Hath

p *cresc.*

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48

S van - ish'd from the skies, *ff* And fill the air with ca - rols

A van - ish'd from the skies, *ff* And fill the air with ca - rols

T van - ish'd from the skies, *ff* And fill the air with ca - rols

B van - ish'd from the skies, *ff* And fill the air with ca - rols

53

S rare To greet my la - dy's eyes, *dim.* to greet my la - dy's eyes, *p*

A rare To greet my la - dy's eyes, *dim.* to greet my la - dy's eyes, *p* And

T rare To greet my la - dy's eyes, *dim.* to greet my la - dy's eyes, *p* And

B rare To greet my la - dy's eyes, *dim.* to greet my la - dy's eyes, *p* and

58

S *cresc.* and fill the air with

A *cresc.* fill the air with ca - rols rare To greet my la - dy's eyes, and fill the

T *cresc.* fill the air with ca - rols rare and fill the air with

B *cresc.* fill the air with ca - rols rare To greet my la - dy's eyes,

63

S ca - rols rare To greet my la - dy's eyes, to greet my la - - - dy's eyes.

A air with ca - rols rare to greet my la - - - dy's eyes.

T ca - rols rare To greet my la - dy's eyes, to greet my la - - - dy's eyes.

B to greet my la - - - dy's eyes.

Novello, Ewer and Company
(1875)

Sir Robert Prescott Stewart (1825-1894) was born in Dublin and trained as chorister at the Cathedral School of Christ Church Cathedral. In 1844, he was appointed organist at Christ Church and, later, at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. Stewart became Professor of Music at the University of Dublin in 1862 where Sir Charles V. Stanford was his pupil. He was also a teacher of piano and harmony and composition at Royal Irish Academy of Music. He was conductor of the University of Dublin Choral Society and the Bray Philharmonic Society. Stewart was editor of the 1876 Irish Church Hymnal. His multifaceted career was held in high regard and he was viewed as the 'figurehead' of music in Ireland by his English contemporaries.

The dawn of day is far away,
Below the eastern steep,
And sweet and calm the dew, like balm
Weighs down the flowers in sleep.

But why should sleep my mistress keep
Within her silent bower?
Shine forth, and be my love for me,
Of all the fairest flower.

There is no light in heaven tonight,
Save what the stars do make;
If thou wilt rise and ope thine eyes,
'Twill seem like morning's break.

The blithesome lark shall think the dark
Hath vanished from the skies,
And fill the air with carols rare
To greet my lady's eyes.

John Francis Waller (1810-1894)

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