



# In pride of May

John E. West  
(1863-1929)

Allegro grazioso ♩ = 138

S *mp* In pride of May, *cresc.* The fields are gay, The birds do

A *mp* In pride of May, *cresc.* The fields are gay, The birds do

T *mp* In pride of May, *cresc.* The fields are gay, The birds do

B *mp* In pride of May, *cresc.* The fields are gay, The birds do

## In pride of May

5

S *dim.* sweet - ly sing, *cresc.* the birds do sweet - ly sing, *f* do sweet -

A *dim.* sweet - ly sing, *cresc.* the birds do sweet - ly sing, *f* the

T *dim.* sweet - ly sing, *cresc.* the birds do sweet - ly sing, *f* the

B *dim.* sweet - ly sing, *cresc.* the birds do sweet - ly sing, *f* do

9

S *sostenuto dim.* - ly sing; *mp sostenuto* So na - ture would That all things should With *cresc.*

A *sostenuto dim.* birds do sweet - ly sing; *mp sostenuto* So na - ture would That all things should With *cresc.*

T *sostenuto dim.* birds do sweet - ly sing; *mp sostenuto* So na - ture would That all things

B *sostenuto dim.* sweet - ly sing; *mp sostenuto* So na - ture would That all things

13

S *f marcato* joy be - gin the Spring, with joy be - gin the Spring, with

A *f marcato* joy be - gin the Spring, with joy, with joy be - gin

T *f marcato* should With joy be - gin the Spring, with joy be - gin the Spring, with

B *f marcato* should With joy be - gin the Spring, with joy, with joy be - gin the

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S joy be - gin the Spring, with joy, with joy, with

A — the Spring, with joy be - gin the Spring, with joy, with

T joy be - gin the Spring, with joy be - gin, with

B Spring, with joy be - gin the Spring, with joy, with

20

S joy be - gin the Spring. Fa la la, fa la la,

A joy be - gin the Spring. Fa la la, fa la la,

T joy be - gin the Spring. Fa la la la,

B joy be - gin the Spring. Fa

*p leggiero*

24

S fa la la la la la la la, fa la la la la la la la,

A fa la la la, fa la la la la la, fa la la

T fa la la la la la, fa la la la, fa la la la

B — la la la la, fa la la la, fa la la la

*poco cresc.*

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S  
fa la la la, \_\_\_\_\_ fa la la, fa la la, fa la la la la la

A  
la la la, \_\_\_\_\_ fa la la, fa la la, fa la la

T  
la la, \_\_\_\_\_ fa la la, fa la la la la, fa la la \_\_\_\_\_

B  
la la la la, \_\_\_\_\_ fa \_\_\_\_\_ la la

33

S  
*poco cresc.* la la la, *poco cresc.* fa la la la la la la la la la, *rall.* fa la la la.

A  
*poco cresc.* la, *poco cresc.* fa la la la la la la, *rall.* fa la la la la la.

T  
*poco cresc.* la la la, *poco cresc.* fa la la la la la, *rall.* fa la la la la la la la.

B  
*poco cresc.* la la, *poco cresc.* fa la la la la, *rall.* fa la la la la la la la.

38

S  
*mp* Then La - dy dear *cresc.* Do you ap - pear, \_\_\_\_\_ In beau - ty

A  
*mp* Then La - dy dear *cresc.* Do you ap - pear, In beau - ty

T  
*mp* Then La - dy dear Do you \_\_\_\_\_ ap - pear, \_\_\_\_\_ In beau - ty

B  
*mp* Then La - dy dear \_\_\_\_\_ Do you ap - pear, In beau - ty

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42

S like the Spring, in beau - ty like the Spring, the Spring.

A like the Spring, in beau - ty like the Spring, in

T like the Spring, in beau - ty like the Spring, in

B like the Spring, in beau - ty like the Spring, the

*dim.* *cresc.* *f*

46

S the Spring. I well dare say The birds that day More

A beau - ty like the Spring. I well dare say The birds that day More

T beau - ty like the Spring. I well dare say The birds that

B Spring, the Spring. I well dare say The birds that

*sostenuto dim.* *mp* *sostenuto* *cresc.*

50

S cheer - ful - ly will sing, more cheer - ful - ly will sing, more

A cheer - ful - ly will sing, will sing, more cheer - ful - ly

T day More cheer - ful - ly will sing, more cheer - ful - ly will sing, more

B day More cheer - ful - ly will sing, will sing, more cheer - ful - ly will

*f marcato*

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54

S cheer - ful - ly will sing, will sing, will sing, more

A will sing, more cheer - ful - ly will sing, will sing, more

T cheer - ful - ly will sing, more cheer - - - ful - ly, more

B sing, more cheer - ful - ly will sing, will sing, more

58

S cheer - ful - ly will sing. Fa la la, fa la la,

A cheer - ful - ly will sing. Fa la la, fa la la,

T cheer - ful - ly will sing. Fa la la la,

B cheer - ful - ly will sing. Fa

*p leggiero*

62

S fa la la la la la la la, fa la la la la la la la,

A fa la la la, fa la la la la, fa la la

T fa la la la la la, fa la la la, fa la la la

B la la la la, fa la la la, fa la la la

*poco cresc.*

# In pride of May

66

S  
fa la la la, fa la la, fa la la, fa la la la la la

A  
la la la, fa la la, fa la la, fa la la

T  
la la, fa la la, fa la la la, fa la la

B  
la la la la, fa la la

71

S  
*poco cresc.* la la la, fa la la la la la la la, *rall.* fa la la la.

A  
*poco cresc.* la, fa la la la la la, *rall.* fa la la la la la.

T  
*poco cresc.* la la la, fa la la la la, *rall.* fa la la la la la la la.

B  
*poco cresc.* la la, fa la la la la, *rall.* fa la la la la la la la.

**John Ebenezer West** (1863-1929) was born in Hackney, London, England. He was taught at home by his father William West, founder of the North-East London Academy of Music. He also studied organ with Frederick Bridge, organist at Westminster Abbey. His mother, Madame Clara West, was a professional soprano, and his sister, Lottie West, a professional contralto soloist, pianist and teacher. West studied at the Royal Academy of Music, where he was taught composition by his uncle, Ebenezer Prout, an authority on the fugues of Bach. West held organ posts in London at St. Mary's, Bourdon Street, St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney and St. Augustine's, Queen's Gate. He conducted various choral societies and choirs in London, Reading, Croydon, Warlingham and the highly regarded Railway Clearing House Male-Voice Choir. In 1884, he became an associate editor with Novello & Company in London. In 1897, West became chief editor and adviser, a post previously occupied by such notables as Joseph Barnby and John Stainer. He remained with Novello's for 45 years, 32 as chief editor. He retired shortly before his death in 1929. He was a prolific composer and editor with nearly 500 published pieces. He was a pioneer in the field of editing, especially choral and organ music from earlier centuries. He collapsed on the stage of Westminster Central Hall after conducting the third item in a concert by the Railway Clearing House Male-Voice Choir. He was rushed to nearby Westminster Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

In pride of May,  
The fields are gay,  
The birds do sweetly sing.

So nature would  
That all things should  
With joy begin the Spring.

Then Lady dear  
Do you appear,  
In beauty like the Spring.

I well dare say  
The birds that day  
More cheerfully will sing,

Thomas Weelkes (1576-1623)

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