

How fair and how pleasing

Written July 1974, for the wedding of Malcom Arthur and Harriet Leigh Spencer
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Song of Songs, Chapter 7: verses 6, 11-12

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Allegretto comodo (♩ = 76)

rit. molto
rit. a tempo

f a tempo

I give thee my

f a tempo

I give thee my

f a tempo

I give thee my

semper cresc.

rit. molto
rit. a tempo

f

I give thee my

Organ

5

Soprano (S) voice part:

love. *mf dolce* [gentle portamento]

Alto (A) voice part:

How fair and how pleasing art thou O

Tenor (T) voice part:

love.

Bass (B) voice part:

love.

Organ (Org.) accompaniment:

mf *p*

9

[caressing portamento]

Soprano (S) voice part:

How beau - ti - ful and how en - tran - cing my be - lov - èd art

Alto (A) voice part:

love, How beau - ti - ful and how en - tran - cing my be - lov - èd art thou for de -

Tenor (T) voice part:

How beau - ti - ful and how en - tran - cing my be - lov - èd art

Bass (B) voice part:

How fair art

Organ (Org.) accompaniment:

13

Soprano (S) vocal line: thou for de-lights. How fair and how
 Alto (A) vocal line: - lights, for de-lights. How fair and how
 Tenor (T) vocal line: thou art thou for de-lights. How fair and how
 Bass (B) vocal line: thou for de-lights. How fair and how
 Organ (Org.) harmonic support: dynamic f, measure 13; dynamic ff, measure 15.

17

Soprano (S) vocal line: plea-sing art thou, O my love, How beau-ti-ful, how en- ff
 Alto (A) vocal line: plea-sing art thou, my love, How beau-ti-ful, how en ff
 Tenor (T) vocal line: plea-sing art thou, my love, How beau-ti-ful, how en ff
 Bass (B) vocal line: plea-sing art thou, my love, How beau-ti-ful, how en ff
 Organ (Org.) harmonic support: dynamic ff, measure 17.

21

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: -tran-cing, my be - lov - èd art thou.

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: tran-cing, my be - lov - èd art thou.

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: tran-cing, my be - lov - èd art thou.

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: tran-cing, my be - lov - èd art thou.

Organ (Org.) harmonic support.

[resume tempo]

Measure 21 concludes with a fermata over the organ part, followed by a dynamic **p**.

25

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: give thee my love.

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: give thee my love.

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: I give thee my love.

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: Be -

Organ (Org.) harmonic support.

rit. **molto rit.** **a tempo**

Measure 25 begins with a dynamic **mp** and a ritardando (rit.). It then moves to a molto ritardando (molto rit.) with a dynamic **mp**, followed by a return to tempo (a tempo).

poco

Measure 26 begins with a dynamic **mp** and a ritardando (rit.). It then moves to a molto ritardando (molto rit.) with a dynamic **poco**, followed by a return to tempo (a tempo).

29 **quasi un poco piu mosso**

S *[less portamento now]*

A

T *p*

B

my—love—thou art fair, how

Org.

hold thou art fair, my—love—thou art fair, how

quasi un poco piu mosso

J = 80

S

A

T

B

[less portamento now]

S

A

T

B

beau-ti-ful and how en - tranc - ing, my be - lov-èd art thou, art thou for de -

mf

beau-ti-ful and how en - tran - cing my be - lov-èd art thou for de - lights, for de -

mf

beau-ti-ful and how en - tran - cing, my be - lov-èd art thou, art thou for de -

mf

beau - ti-ful, how en - tranc-ing, How fair art thou for de -

f

Org.

37

S A T B Org.

-lights. How fair and how pleasing art thou, O³ my
-lights. How fair and how pleasing art thou, my
-lights. How fair and how pleasing art thou, my
-lights. How fair and how pleasing art thou, my

f

f

f

f

f

8

5

tempo primo [i.e. quasi un poco meno mosso]

42

S A T B Org.

love! how beau-ti-ful how en - tranc-ing, my be - lov - èd art
love! how beau-ti-ful how en tranc-ing, my be - lov - èd art
love! how beau-ti-ful how en - tran-cing, my be - lov - èd art
love! how beau-ti-ful how en - tran-cing, my be - lov - èd art

p

p

p

p

tempo primo [i.e. quasi un poco meno mosso]

p

47 **quasi piu allegretto**

Soprano (S) **4** **12** **leggiero** **p** thou. My be-lov - èd, come let us go

Alto (A) **4** **12** thou. My be-lov - èd, come let us go

Tenor (T) **4** **12** **p** thou. My be-lov - èd, come

Bass (B) **4** **12** thou. My be-lov - èd, come

Org. **4** **12** **leggiero** **p**

49

Soprano (S) forth in - to the fields, let us dwell where the hen-na grows,

Alto (A) forth in - to the fields, let us dwell where the hen-na grows,

Tenor (T) **8** let us go forth in - to the fields, let us dwell where the

Bass (B) let us go forth in - to the fields, let us dwell where the

Org.

51

S let us lodge in the farm - steads.

A let us lodge in the farm - steads.

T 8 hen-na bush - es grow.

B hen-na bush - es grow. let us rise up ear - ly,

Org. *sempre cresc.*

53

S - - - - - *f*
and

A *mf* and go out to the vine - yards,

T 8 and see if the vine__ hath bud - ded,

B - - - - -

Org. *f*

55

S whe-ther its blos-som be o - pen, *f* whe-ther the pom - e-gran-ate put forth its
A or whe - ther it put forth its
T whe-ther the pom - e-gran-ate put forth its
B or whe - ther it put forth its

Org.

57

S flow'r; and there will I give thee my love!
A flow'r; and there will I give thee my love!
T flow'r; and there will I give thee my love!
B flow'r; and there will I give thee my love!

ff rit. molto rit.

Org.

tempo primo, ma un poco meno mosso $\text{J.} = \text{J.}$ *teneramente che possibile**ppp [port.]*

S 61

How fair and how pleasing art thou O love, how

A

T

B

tempo primo, ma un poco meno mosso $\text{J.} = \text{J.}$ *ppp teneramente che possibile*

Org.

66

S beau-ti-ful and how en - tran - cing my be - lov - èd art thou, art thou for de-
A beau-ti-ful and how en - tran - cing my be - lov - èd art thou for de - lights, for de -
T beau-ti-ful and how en - tran - cing my be - lov - èd art thou, art thou for de-
B beau - ti-ful, how en - tran-cing, How fair art thou for de-

Org.

70

S -lights. How fair and how pleasing art thou, O³ my
A -lights. How fair and how pleasing art thou, my
T -lights. How fair and how pleasing art thou, my
B -lights. How fair and how pleasing art thou, my

Org.

75

S love, How beau - ti-ful, how en - tran-cing, my be - lov - èd, *ff* *mp*

A love, How beau - ti-ful, how en tran-cing, my be - lov - èd, *ff* *mp*

T love, How beau - ti-ful, how en tran-cing, my be - lov - èd, *ff* *mp*

B love, How beau - ti-ful, how en tran-cing, my be - lov - èd, *ff* *mp*

Org.

molto rit.

79

S art thou. *tempo primo* *poco rit.* *a tempo* *poco rit.* *piu rit.* *mf*

A art thou. *tempo primo* *poco rit.* *a tempo* *poco rit.* *piu rit.* *mf*

T art thou. *tempo primo* *poco rit.* *a tempo* *poco rit.* *piu rit.* *mf*

B art thou. *tempo primo* *poco rit.* *a tempo* *poco rit.* *piu rit.* *mf*

Org. *tempo primo* *poco rit.* *a tempo* *poco rit.* *piu rit.* *molto rit.*

83

Soprano (S) vocal line:

un poco meno mosso > **poco rit.** **quasi tempo** **pp**

give thee my love. there will I give thee my love.

Alto (A) vocal line:

> **p** **> pp**

give thee my love. there will I give thee my love, my love.

Tenor (T) vocal line:

> **p** >> **pp**

give thee my love. there will I give thee my... there will I give thee my love.

Bass (B) vocal line:

> **p** >> **pp**

give thee my love. there will I give thee my... there will I give thee my love.

Organ (Org.) vocal line:

un poco meno mosso > **poco rit.** **quasi tempo** **pp** **p**

Org. (continued): **p**