

A Hymn to the Virgin

*ANON
(circa 1300)

Music by
BENJAMIN BRITTEN

Andante lento (♩ = 69-72)

Key A mi. (Doh is C) { .m | .t :l .d' |t .l :m : , | : : : }

SOPRANO ALTO *pp molto legato sempre*

CHORUS I

TENOR
BASS

Or one that is so fair and bright

{ .d' | d' .r' :d' .m' |r' .d' :t : , | : : : }

SOPRANO
ALTO

+CHORUS II

TENOR
BASS

pp molto legato sempre
Ve - lut ma - ris stel - la

{ . : : : | t .d' :r' .s |l :l : , | : : : }

{ l .t :l .d' |t .l :m : , | : : : .m' }

Brigh - ter than the day is light, I

{ d' .r' :d' .m' |f' .r' :d' : , | : : : .de' }

{ : : : | s .l :f .s |m :m : , }

pp Pa - rens et pu - el - la:

{ d' .t :l .s |l :l : , | : : : }

*Chorus II to be sung either by a semi-chorus, or a solo quartet.

*From the "Oxford Book of English Verse" Clarendon Press.

H. 14240

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f. F *C. t*

f. d' :l :s .t ll .,f :m *s d' .d' :d' .l ll .,se :se*
m :r .r ld .,r :d *t, m .m :r .r lm .,m :m*

mf dim. *mf dim.*

cry to thee, thou see to me, La - dy, pray thy Son for me,

f. d' :t .s lf .,l :s *m l .l :l .s l lt .,t :t*
f :s .s, lr .,t, :d *r s .s :f .f lm .,m :m*

f. d' :l .d' lt .l :m *d :f :m* *se :t :l* *m :r :d* *s :l :f, s lm :d*

se :t :l *m :r :d* *s :l :f, s lm :d* *m :r :d*

Tum ps - a, *Ma - ri - - - - - al*

t .,se :l *d' .t :l .s ll* *d :r .t, ll*

m :m :f *m*

rall. - - - - -

f. d' :l .d' lt .l :m *d :f :m* *se :t :l* *m :r :d* *s :l :f, s lm :d*

p *p* *pp*

That I may come to thee.

Tum ps - a, *Ma - ri - - - - - al*

t .,se :l *d' .t :l .s ll* *d :r .t, ll*

m :m :f *m*

All this world was for-lorn
 Till our Lord was y-born
 E - va pec - ca - tri - ce,
 With a - ve it went away Dark-est night, and comes the day
 De te ge-ne-tri - ce.
 The well... springeth out of thee.
 Sa - - tu - tis;
 Vir - tu - - - tis.

p *mf* *pp* *f* *ten.* *p* *rall.* *p* *pp*

A Hymn to the Virgin

Più animato (♩ = 50-54)

SOPRANO
mf marc. La-dy, flow'r of ev'rything, *più f* Thou bare Je-su, Heav'n's King,

ALTO
p legato cresc. La - - dy,..... *più f e cresc.* Thou bare Je - - su, Hea-ven's King,

CHORUS I

TENOR
p legato cresc. La - - dy,..... *più f e cresc.* Thou bare Je - - su, Hea-ven's King,

BASS
p sostenuto cresc. La - - dy, flow'r, *più f e cresc.* Thou bare Je - - su, Hea-ven's King,

SOPRANO
mf Rosa si-ne spi-na, *f* Gra-ti-a di-vi-na:

ALTO
mf Rosa si-ne spi-na, *f* Gra-ti-a di-vi-na:

CHORUS II

TENOR
mf marcato Rosa si-ne spi-na, *f* Gra-ti-a di-vi-na:

BASS
mf marcato Rosa si-ne spi-na, *f* Gra-ti-a di-vi-na:

PIANO
 (for rehearsal only)
mf marcato *più f e cresc.*

Molto rall.

Of all thou bearest the prize, La - - dy, queen of pa-ra-dise Maid...

Of all thou bearest the prize, La - - dy, queen

Of all thou bearest the prize, La - - dy, queen

Of all thou bearest the prize, La - - dy, queen

E - - lec - ta:.....

E - - lec - ta:.....

E - - lec - ta:.....

E - - lec - ta:.....

Molto rall.

The musical score is written for a choir and piano. It features four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a grand staff for the piano accompaniment. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Molto rall.' (Very slow). The lyrics are 'Of all thou bearest the prize, La - - dy, queen of pa-ra-dise Maid...' and 'E - - lec - ta:.....'. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like *dim.* (diminuendo) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The piano part features a prominent bass line with chords and arpeggios.

Tempo I^{mo} più tranquillo

Molto più lento

legato *pp*

mild, mo-ther es Ef - fec - - - - ta.....

p legato *pp*

Maid mild, mo-ther es Ef - fec - - - - ta.....

p legato *pp*

Maid mild, mo-ther es Ef - fec - - - - ta.....

p legato *pp*

Maid mild, mo-ther es Ef - fec - - - - ta.....

p *pp* *mor.*

Ef - fec - - - - ta.

p *pp* *mor.*

Ef - fec - - - - ta.

p *pp* *mor.*

Ef - fec - - - - ta.

p *pp* *mor.*

Ef - fec - - - - ta.

Tempo I^{mo} più tranquillo

Molto più lento

p legato *pp*

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