



It was a lover
and his lass

Joseph Barnby
(1838-1896)

It was a lover and his lass

J. Barnby

Allegro molto vivace $\text{♩} = 84$

S
It was a lov - er and his lass, With a hey, — and a ho, and a hey — no - ni -

A
It was a lov - er and his lass, With a hey, — and a ho, and a hey — no - ni -

T
It was a lov - er and his lass, and a ho, no - ni -

B
It was a lov - er and his lass, With a hey, and a hey

5
S
no, with a hey, — and a ho, and a hey — no - ni - no, That o'er the green corn - field did

A
no, with a hey, — and a ho, and a hey — no - ni - no, That o'er the green corn - field did

T
no, with a hey, and a hey That o'er the green corn - field did

B
and a ho, no - ni - no, That o'er the green corn - field did



9

S pass In spring - time, the on - ly pret - ty ring - time, When birds do

A pass In spring - time, the pret - ty ring - time, When birds do sing, when birds do

T pass In spring - time, the pret - ty ring - time, When birds do sing, when birds do

B pass In spring - time, the on - ly pret - ty ring - time, When birds do sing, Hey,

13

S sing, Hey, ding a ding a ding, hey, ding a ding a ding, hey,

A sing, Hey, ding a ding a ding, hey, ding a ding a ding, hey, ding a ding a ding,

T sing, Hey, ding a ding a ding, hey, ding a ding a ding, ding a ding a ding, hey, ding a ding a ding, ding a

B ding a ding a ding, ding a ding, ding a ding, ding a ding, ding a ding, hey, ding a ding a ding, hey, ding a ding a

18

S ding a ding a ding, Sweet lov - ers love the Spring, sweet lov - ers love the Spring.

A Sweet lov - ers love the Spring, sweet lov - ers love the Spring.

T ding a ding a ding, Sweet lov - ers love the Spring, sweet lov - ers love the Spring.

B ding, ding a ding, Sweet lov - ers love the Spring, sweet lov - ers love the Spring.

It was a lover and his lass

23

S This ca - rol they be - gan that hour, With a hey, — and a ho, and a hey, — no - ni -

A This ca - rol they be - gan that hour, With a hey, — and a ho, and a hey, — no - ni -

T This ca - rol they be - gan that hour, and a ho, no - ni -

B This ca - rol they be - gan that hour, With a hey, and a hey,

27

S no, with a hey, — and a ho, and a hey — no - ni - no, How that a life was but a

A no, with a hey, — and a ho, and a hey — no - ni - no, How that a life was but a

T no, with a hey, and a hey How that a life was but a

B and a ho, no - ni - no, How that a life was but a

31

S flow'r, In spring - time, the on - ly pret - ty ring - time, When birds do

A flow'r, In spring - time, the pret - ty ring - time, When birds do sing, when birds do

T flow'r, In spring - time, the pret - ty ring - time, When birds do sing, when birds do

B flow'r, In spring - time, the on - ly pret - ty ring - time, When birds do sing, Hey,

35

S sing, Hey, ding a ding a ding, hey, ding a ding a ding,

A sing, Hey, ding a ding a ding, hey, ding a ding a ding, hey, ding a ding a

T sing, Hey, ding a ding a ding, hey, ding a ding a ding, ding a ding a ding, hey, ding a ding a

B ding a ding a ding, ding a ding, ding a ding, ding a ding, ding a ding, hey, ding a ding a ding, hey,

39

S hey, ding a ding a ding, Sweet lov - ers love the Spring, sweet

A ding, Sweet lov - ers love the Spring, sweet

T ding, ding a ding a ding a ding, Sweet lov - ers love the Spring, sweet

B ding a ding a ding, ding a ding, Sweet lov - ers love the Spring, sweet

43

S lov - ers love the Spring, And there - fore take the pre - sent

A lov - ers love the Spring, And there - fore take the pre - sent

T lov - ers love the Spring, And there - fore take the pre - sent

B lov - ers love the Spring, And there - fore take the pre - sent

48

S *mf* time, With a hey, and a ho, and a hey_ no - ni - no, with a hey, and a ho, and a hey_ no - ni -

A *mf* time, With a hey, and a ho, and a hey_ no - ni - no, with a hey, and a ho, and a hey_ no - ni -

T *mf* time, With a hey, and a hey with a hey, and a hey

B *mf* time, and a ho, no - ni - no, and a ho, no - ni -

52

S *f* no, For love is crown - ed with the prime, *p* In spring - time, the on - ly pret - ty

A *f* no, For love is crown - ed with the prime, *p* In spring - time, the pret - ty

T *f* For love is crown - ed with the prime, *p* In spring - time, the pret - ty

B *f* no, For love is crown - ed with the prime, *p* In spring - time, the pret - ty

56

S *cresc.* ring - time, spring - time, the on - ly pret - ty *f* ring - time, ding a ding a ding, hey, ding a ding a

A *cresc.* ring - time, spring - time, the pret - ty *f* ring - time, ding a ding a ding, hey, ding a ding a

T *cresc.* ring - time, spring - time, the pret - ty *f* Spring, ding a ding, Hey, ding a ding a ding, hey,

B *cresc.* ring - time, spring - time, the ring - time, *f* Ding a ding a ding, hey, ding a ding a ding, hey,

60

S
ding, hey, ding a ding a ding, Sweet lov - ers love the Spring, sweet *cresc.*

A
ding, hey, ding a ding a ding, Sweet lov - ers love the Spring, sweet *cresc.*

T
ding a ding a ding, ding, ding, Sweet lov - ers love the Spring, ding a ding, sweet *cresc.*

B
ding a ding a ding, ding, ding, ding a ding, Sweet lov - ers love the Spring, sweet *cresc.*

64

S
lov - ers love the Spring, sweet lov - ers love the

A
lov - ers love the Spring, ding a ding, sweet lov - ers love the
sweet lov - ers love the

T
lov - ers love the Spring, sweet lov - ers love the

B
lov - ers love the Spring, sweet lov - ers love the

68

S
Spring, sweet lov - ers love the Spring. *rall.*

A
Spring, lov - ers love the Spring. *rall.*
Spring, sweet lov - ers, sweet lov - ers love the Spring.

T
Spring, Spring, sweet lov - ers love the Spring. *rall.*
Spring, sweet lov - ers love the Spring, the Spring.

B
Spring, love the Spring. *rall.*

Sir Joseph Barnby (1838–1896) was born at York, as a son of organist Thomas Barnby. He was a chorister at York Minster and was educated at the Royal Academy of Music. In 1856, he competed for the first Mendelssohn Scholarship and tied for first place with Arthur Sullivan, but, after a second test, Sullivan won. Barnby held organist positions at Mitcham, St. Michael's, Queenhithe, and St. James' the Less, Westminster, St. Andrew's, Wells Street, London, and St. Anne's, Soho. In London, he also was conductor of "Barnby's Choir," well known for their many performances. In 1871 he was appointed conductor of the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, succeeding the eminent composer Charles Gounod after he returned to his native France. He held that position until his death. He was director of music at Eton College then principal of the Guildhall School of Music. His works include oratorio, many services and anthems, 246 hymn tunes, organ pieces, and many part-songs, some of the most popular of the era.

It was a lover and his lass,
With a hey, and a ho, and a hey nonino,
That o'er the green cornfields did pass
In spring time,
The only pretty ring time,
When birds do sing,
Ding a ding a ding;
Sweet lovers love in spring,
Ding a ding a ding.

This carol they began that hour,
With a hey, and a ho, and a hey nonino,
How that a life was but a flow'r,
In spring time,
The only pretty ring time,
When birds do sing,
Ding a ding a ding;
Sweet lovers love in spring,
Ding a ding a ding.

And therefore take the present time,
With a hey, and a ho, and a hey nonino,
For love is crowned with the prime,
In spring time,
The only pretty ring time,
When birds do sing,
Ding a ding a ding;
Sweet lovers love in spring,
Ding a ding a ding.

As You Like It
Act 5, Scene 3
William Shakespeare (1564–1616)

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