



**If I had but
two little wings**

**Charles E. Whiting
(1833-1923)**

Charles Edward Whiting (1833-1923) was born in Holliston, Massachusetts. He was an instructor in music in the Boston public schools for over forty years. He authored a series of textbooks on music, "The Public School Music Course." His compositions and arrangements were mostly songs for his music textbooks.

If I had but two little wings
And were a little feathery bird,
To you I'd fly, my dear!
But thoughts like these are idle things
And I stay here.

But in my sleep to you I fly:
I'm always with you in my sleep!
The world is all one's own.
And then one wakes, and where am I?
All, all alone.

Sleep stays not, though a monarch bids:
So I love to wake ere break of day:
For though my sleep be gone,
Yet while 'tis dark, one shuts one's lids,
And still dreams on.

Samuel Taylor-Coleridge (1772-1834)

If I had but two little wings

C. E. Whiting

Moderato

S *p* If I had but two lit - tle wings And were a lit - tle feath - 'ry bird, To *cresc.*

A *p* If I had but two lit - tle wings And were a lit - tle feath - 'ry bird, To *cresc.*

T *p* If I had but two lit - tle wings And were a lit - tle feath - 'ry bird, To *cresc.*

B *p* If I had but two lit - tle wings And were a lit - tle feath - 'ry bird, To *cresc.*

S ⁵ you I'd fly, my dear, To you, to you I'd fly, my dear! _____

A you I'd fly, my dear, To you, to you I'd fly, my dear! _____

T you I'd fly, my dear, To you I'd fly, my dear! _____

B you I'd fly, my dear, To you I'd fly, my dear! _____ But

If I had but two little wings

9

S But thoughts like these, but thoughts like these are i - dle things And

A But thoughts like these, but thoughts like these are i - dle things And

T But thoughts like these, but thoughts like these are i - dle things And

B thoughts like these are i - dle things, like these are i - dle things And

cresc.

13

S I stay there, and I stay there.

A I stay there, and I, and I stay there.

T I stay there, and I stay there.

B I stay there, and I stay there.

dim. *poco rit.*

a tempo

S But in my sleep to you I'd fly: I'm al - ways with you in my sleep! The

A But in my sleep to you I'd fly: I'm al - ways with you in my sleep! The

T But in my sleep to you I'd fly: I'm al - ways with you in my sleep! The

B But in my sleep to you I'd fly: I'm al - ways with you in my sleep! The

p *cresc.*

If I had but two little wings

21

S world is all one's own, The world, the world is all one's own.

A world is all one's own, The world, the world is all one's own.

T world is all one's own, The world is all one's own.

B world is all one's own, The world is all one's own. But

25

S But when one wakes, but when one wakes, and where am I? All,

A But when one wakes, but when one wakes, and where am I? All,

T But when one wakes, but when one wakes, and where am I? All,

B when one wakes, and where am I? one wakes, and where am I? All,

29

S all a - lone, all a - lone, a - lone.

A all a - lone, all, all a - lone, a - lone.

T all a - lone, all, all a - lone.

B all a - lone, all, all a - lone.

If I had but two little wings

a tempo

S Sleep stays not, though a mon - arch bids: So I love to wake ere break of day: For

A Sleep stays not, though a mon - arch bids: So I love to wake ere break of day: For

T Sleep stays not, though a mon - arch bids: So I love to wake ere break of day: For

B Sleep stays not, though a mon - arch bids: So I love to wake ere break of day: For

37

S though my sleep be gone, my sleep, my sleep be gone,

A though my sleep be gone, For though my sleep, my sleep be gone, Yet

T though my sleep be gone, For though my sleep, my sleep be gone, Yet

B though my sleep be gone, my sleep, my sleep be gone, Yet while,

41

S Yet while 'tis dark, 'tis dark one shuts one's lids, And

A while 'tis dark one shuts one's lids, Yet while 'tis dark one shuts one's lids, And

T while 'tis dark one shuts one's lids, Yet while 'tis dark one shuts one's lids, And

B while 'tis dark one shuts one's lids, Yet while 'tis dark one shuts one's

If I had but two little wings

45

The musical score consists of four staves, each with a vocal line and lyrics. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts are in treble clef, while the Tenor (T) and Bass (B) parts are in bass clef. The lyrics are: 'still dreams on, and still dreams on.' for Soprano; 'still dreams on, and still, and still dreams on.' for Alto; 'still dreams on, and still, and still dreams on.' for Tenor; and 'lids, And still dreams on, and still deams on, and still dreams on.' for Bass. Performance markings include a piano (*p*) dynamic at the start of each line and a *poco rit.* marking with a hairpin indicating a gradual deceleration towards the end of each line.

S still dreams on, and still dreams on.

A still dreams on, and still, and still dreams on.

T still dreams on, and still, and still dreams on.

B lids, And still dreams on, and still deams on, and still dreams on.

D. C. Heath and Company
(1890)

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