

19. Believe Me, If All Those Endearing Young Charms

Thomas Moore (1779-1852), the Irish poet, made many contributions to modern song by taking old Irish folk-tunes which were not suitable for general use and writing new poems for them. This is one of the best of his songs. The melody is of exceptional charm and appeal and has long been a favorite, especially as the college song "Fair Harvard."

Thomas Moore

Irish Air: "My Lodging is in the Cold Ground"

Andantino

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 6/8. The tempo is marked 'Andantino'. The lyrics are: 'Be - lieve me, if all those en - dear-ing young charms, Which I gaze on so fond - ly to - day, — Were to change by to - mor - row, and fleet in my arms, Like_ fair - y gifts, fad - ing a - way, — Thou wouldst still be a - dored_ as this mo - ment thou art, Let thy love - li-ness fade as it will; — And a - round the dear ru - in each wish of my heart Would en - twine it - self ver - dant-ly still!' The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a more complex, often syncopated pattern in the left hand.

2. It is not while beauty and youth are thine own,
And they cheeks unprofaned by a tear,
That the fervor and faith of a soul can be known,
To which time will but make thee more dear!
No, the heart that has truly loved never forgets,
But as truly loves on to the close;
As the sunflower turns on her god, when he sets,
The same look which she turned when he rose!

Transcribed By Jennifer Lee



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