

Three Jovial Songs of Christina Rossetti

1. Queen of Hearts

2. Farm Walk

3. A Birthday



Robosoft Music

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I The Queen of Hearts

Presto ♩ = 180

fast boogie - no pedal

5 *mf* *amused bafflement.*

How comes it — Flo - ra, *tr* that, when - e-ver we *tr*

10

Play cards to - ge-ther, you in - va - ri - a - bly, How - e - ver the pack parts, Still

15

hold the Queen — of Hearts. *tr* I've

20

scanned you with a scru-ti-ni-zing gaze, Re-solved to

25

fa-thom these your se - cret ways: But, sift them as I will, Your ways are se - cret still.

31

I cut and shuf - fle; cut and shuf - fle; shuf - fle, cut, a-

36

gain But all my cut - ting, shuf - fling, proves in vain: Vain

41

hope, vain fore-thought too; That Queen still falls to you

rit.

47

Andante ♩ = 90

I dropped her once, pre pense; but, ere the deal Was dealt, your in - stinct

53

seemed the loss to feel "Thersould be one cardmore", You said, and searched the

59

accel.

Presto ♩ = 180

floor

f *sub. p* *f*

64

It baf-fles_ me_ to puz-zle out the

sub. p

69

decisively f

clue, Which must be_ skill_ or craft, or luck in you_ Un -

74

less, in-deed, it be Na - tu - ral af - - fi -

78

ni - ty.

f

II Farm Walk

Allegro ♩ = 118

f *meccanico*

Red. *Red.* *Red.* *Red.* *Red.*

Detailed description: This block contains the piano introduction for the piece. It is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The tempo is marked 'Allegro' with a quarter note equal to 118 beats. The music is written for piano and features a 'meccanico' (mechanical) texture. The right hand plays a series of chords and eighth-note patterns, while the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. There are four 'Red.' markings with arrows pointing to specific chords in the left hand.

89 *read the mood from the text*
many vocal colours - go over the top

mf ♩ = 115

The year stood at its E-qui-nox and bluff the North was blow - ing

mp

Detailed description: This block shows the first line of the song. The vocal line is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The tempo is marked 'mf' with a quarter note equal to 115 beats. The lyrics are: 'The year stood at its E-qui-nox and bluff the North was blow - ing'. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

94 ♩ = 110

A bleat of lambs came from the flocks, Green har-dy things were grow -

Detailed description: This block shows the second line of the song. The vocal line is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The tempo is marked with a quarter note equal to 110 beats. The lyrics are: 'A bleat of lambs came from the flocks, Green har-dy things were grow -'. The piano accompaniment continues with a steady eighth-note pattern in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

98 *Poco Meno Mosso* ♩ = 100

ing; I met a maid with shin-ing locks Where mil-ky kine were low -

Detailed description: This block shows the third line of the song. The tempo is marked 'Poco Meno Mosso' with a quarter note equal to 100 beats. The lyrics are: 'ing; I met a maid with shin-ing locks Where mil-ky kine were low -'. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

102 *mp*

ing. She wore a ker-chief on her neck, Her bare arm showed its dim - - - - - ple,

Detailed description: This block shows the fourth line of the song. The tempo is marked 'mp'. The lyrics are: 'ing. She wore a ker-chief on her neck, Her bare arm showed its dim - - - - - ple,'. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

106

Her a-pron spread with-out a speck her air was frank and sim-ple.

110

mf
She milked in-to a woo-ken pail and sang a coun-try dit-ty,

114

An in-no-cent fond lo-ver's tale That was not wise or wit-ty,

118

ty, Pa-the-ti-cal-ly rus-ti-cal Too point-less for the ci-ty

122

mf
She kept in time with-out a beat As true as

126

church-bell ring - - - ers Un-less sheapped time with her

131

feet, Or squeezed it with her fin - gers Her clear un-stu-diednotes were sweet Asma-ny

135

a prac-ticed sing-er's. I stood a min-ute out of sight, Stood si-lent for a min -

139

- - - ute To eye the pail, and crea-my white The froth-ing milk with-in it;

144

To eye the come-ly milk-ing maid Her - self so fresh and cream - my:

148

"Good day to you,"at last I said;She turned her head to see

152

Meno mosso ♩ = 85

me: "Good day,"she said with lif-ted head; Her eyes looked soft and

156

A tempo ♩ = 105

dream - y, and all the while she milked and milked Thegrave cow hea-vy la den:

160

I've seen grand la-di-gal and silked, But not a swee - ter mai - den But

165

Andante ♩ = 75

not a swee-ter fresh-er maid Than in this home-ly cot ton Whose plea-sant face and

169

sil-ky braid I have not yet for - got - ten. Se-ven springs have

174

passed since then, as I Count with a so - ber sor - row Se - ven springs have come and

178

passed me by, And spring sets in to-mor-row

182 Allegro ♩ = 100

I've half a mind to shake my-self Free just for once from Lon - don To

186

accel.

set my work u-pon the shelf And leave it done or un-done

190 *mf*

To run down by the ear-ly train, Whirl down with shriek and whis - - -

194 - Presto $\text{♩} = 120$ *f*

tle, And feel the bluff North blow a-gain And spy the scarce-blown vio-let banks And

198 Andante $\text{♩} = 95$ *mf*

watch the lambs leap at their pranks A-las one point in all my plan My ser-ious thoughts de-mur to

202 *mp*

Se-ven years have passed for maid and man sev-en years have passed for her too.

206 *mf*

Per-haps my rose is o-ver-blown, Not ro-sy or too ro-sy; Per-haps in

211

meno mosso ♩ = 85

farm-house of her own Some hus-band keeps her co - - - - - sy

214

largo ♩ = 50

♩ = 85

mp

Good - bye,

217

poco rall.

largo ♩ = 60

- my way - side po - sy.

5:16 approx.

III A Birthday

Andante ♩ = 100
ecstatic

My heart is like a sing-ing bird_ Whose nest is in a wa-tered shoot My heart

mf

229

_____ is like an_ ap-ple tree_ Whose boughs are bent with thick-set fruit;_

237

mp calmer, dreamy

My heart is like a rain - bow

p

243

shell that pad-dles in a hal - cy-on sea My heart is glad - der than all

pp

p

247

these Be-cause my love has come to me.

pp

mf ecstatic, decisive

Raise me a dais of silk and down; Hang it with vair and pur - ple dyes; Carve it in doves and

po - me - gran - ates, And pea - cocks with a hun - dred eyes; Work it in gold and sil - ver grapes,

In leaves and sil-ver fleur - de - lys; Be - cause the birth day of my life

Molto meno mosso ♩ = 50
mp simply

is come — my love has come to me.