

The poetry of Mary Mark-Lemon

Would You Ask My Heart the Reason

Ciro Pinsuti

(1829 - 1888)

Ciro Ercole Pinsuti, il cavaliere, (1829-1888) was born in Sinalunga, Siena, Italy, and grounded in music and piano studies by his father. His public debut was at age ten and at eleven he was made honorary member of the Accademia Filharmonica. He then studied piano, composition and violin in England for five years. Returning to Italy, he entered the Conservatorio at Bologna and was a private pupil of Rossini. He moved back to England in 1848 and became a teacher of singing. In 1856 he was appointed a professor at the Academy of Music in London. He became well known as a composer with three operas, but was especially recognized for composing over 230 songs, 35 duets, 14 trios and 45 part-songs which were great favorites with the singing societies of England. In 1878, King Humbert created him a knight of the Italian crown. He died in Florence.

Mary Kate Lemon Blaker (1853-1884) was born in St. Pancras, London, England. She authored several well-known song texts under the pseudonym Mary Mark-Lemon. Tragically, her husband Douglas Blaker died when she was only 26 and their son, born prematurely two weeks later, died within a few hours. She lived only a few years after those events and died in Wandsworth, London.

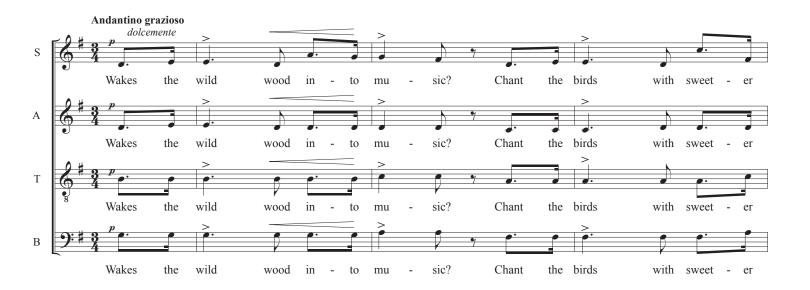
Wakes the wild wood into music?
Chant the birds with sweeter lay?
Do the flowers more sweetly mingle
With the dawning of the day?
Flows the stream with calmer cadence?
Shines the sun with ray more clear?
Would you ask my heart the reason?
It would answer, "She is near!"

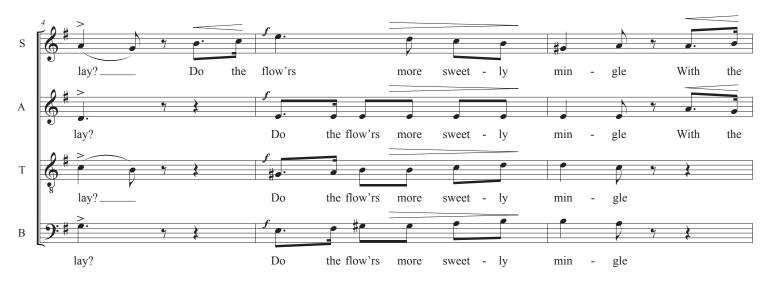
Falls the rain with tearful weeping!
Do the clouds o'er spread the sea?
Flies the glory of the morning,
With its light and radiancy?
Earthborn flowers have veiled their faces,
All the birds to rest have flown,
Would you ask my heart the reason?
It would answer, "She is gone!"

Beam the stars with light more holy
On the distant sea tonight?
Does the moon, its vigil keeping,
Bathe the earth with calmer light?
In my soul their sweet reflection
Gleams with heavenly ray benign,
Would you ask my heart the reason?
It would answer, "She is mine!"

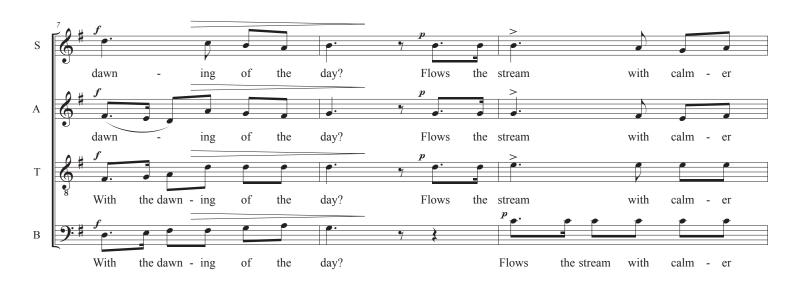
Mary Mark-Lemon née, Mary Kate Lemon Blaker (1853-1884)

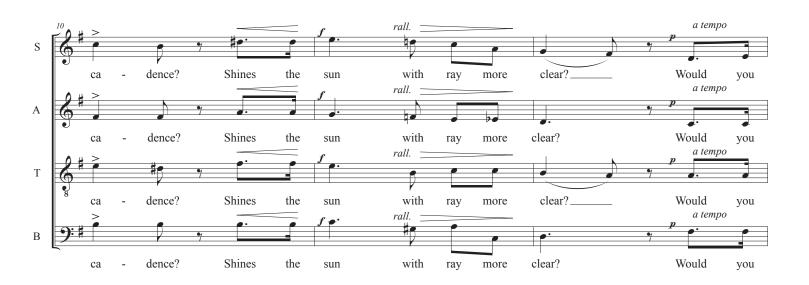
C. Pinsuti

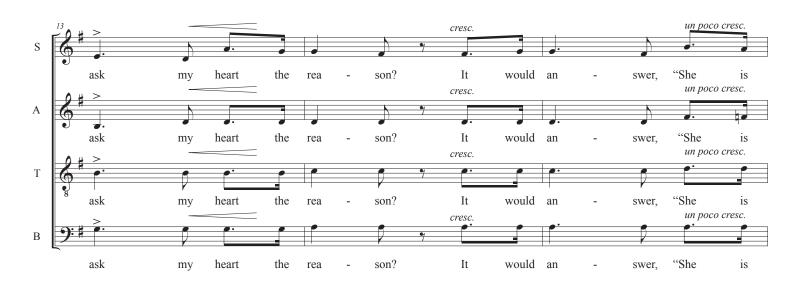


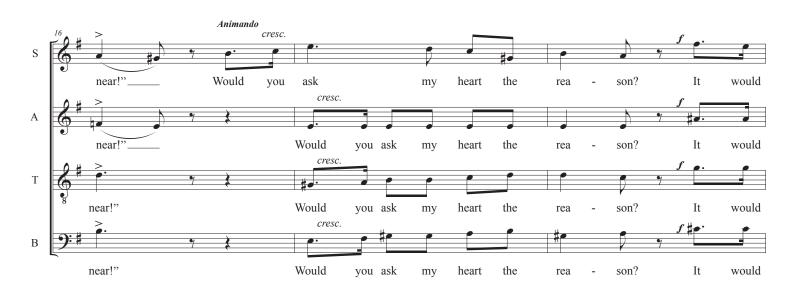


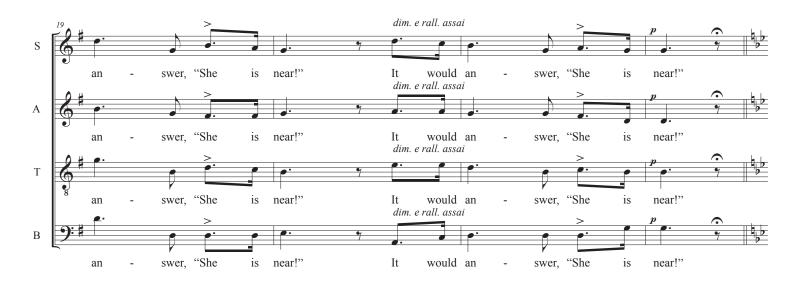


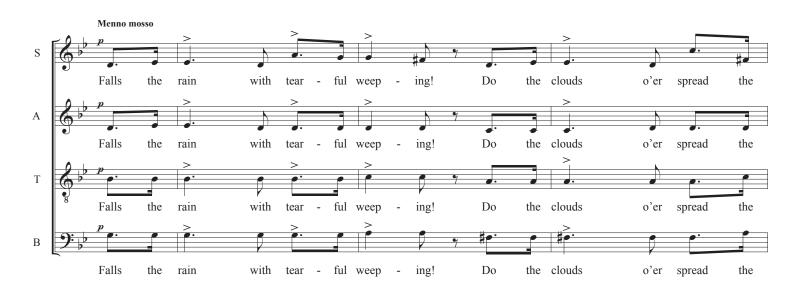


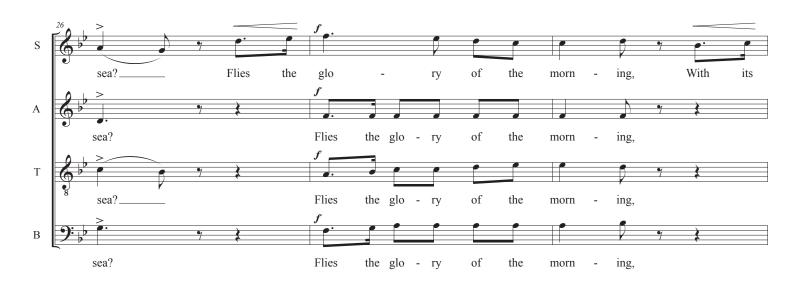


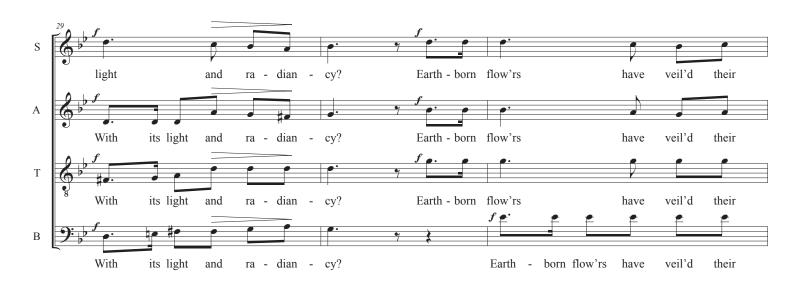


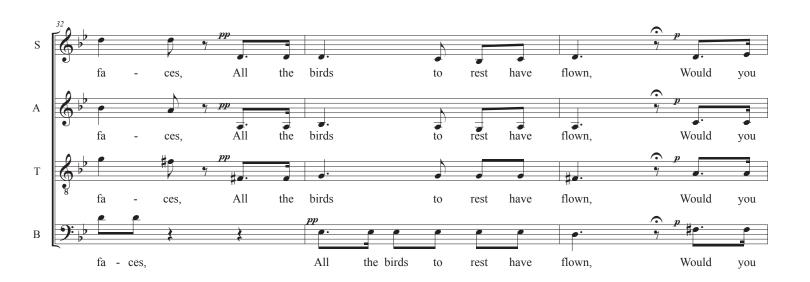


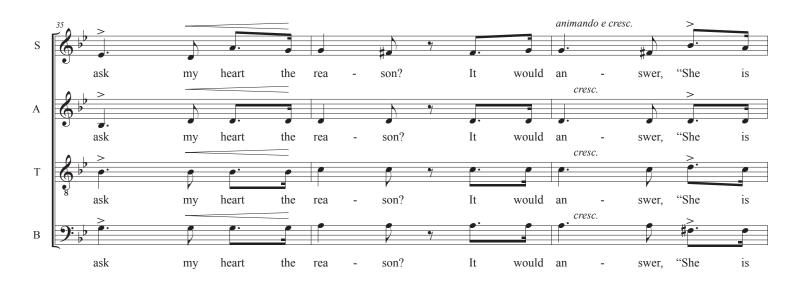


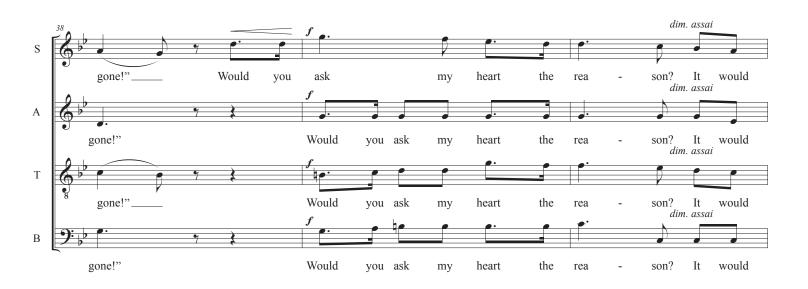


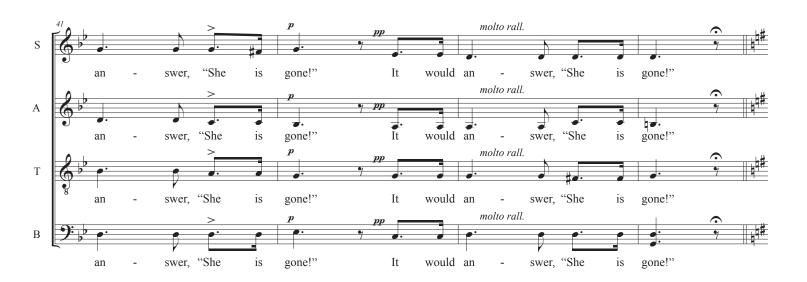


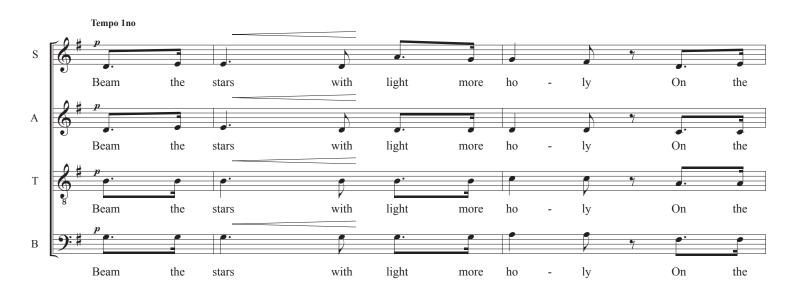


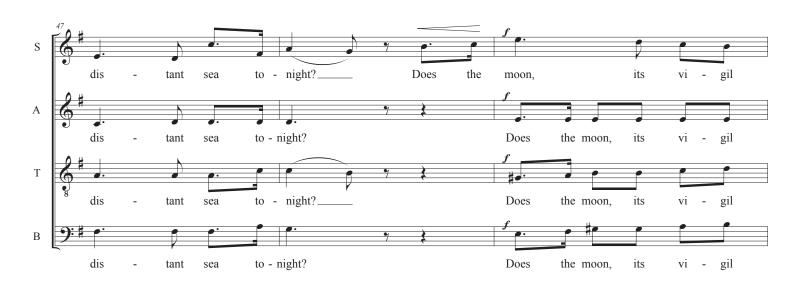


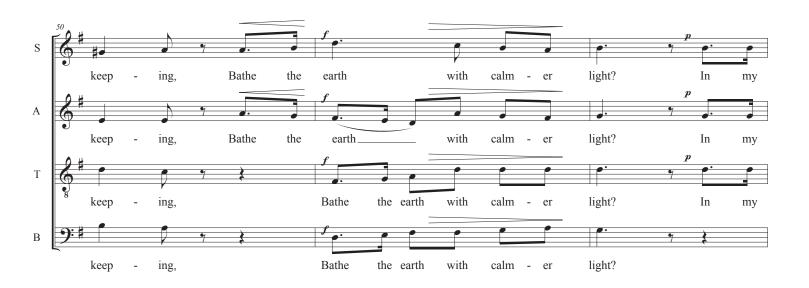


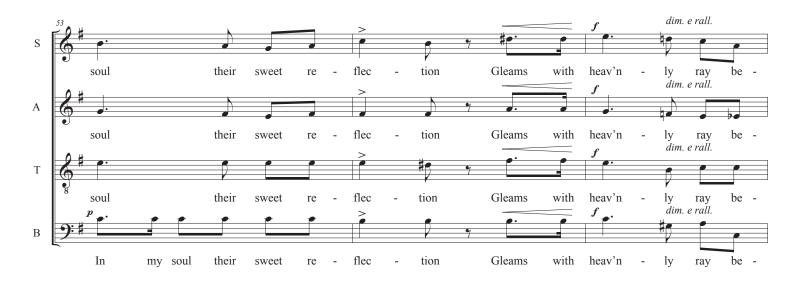


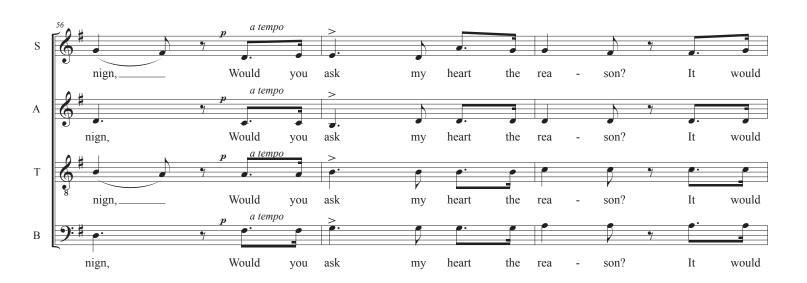


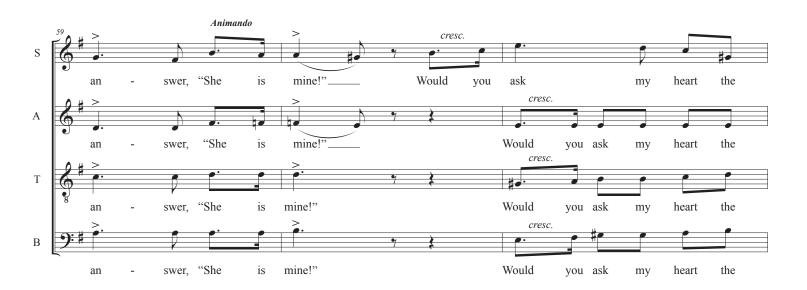


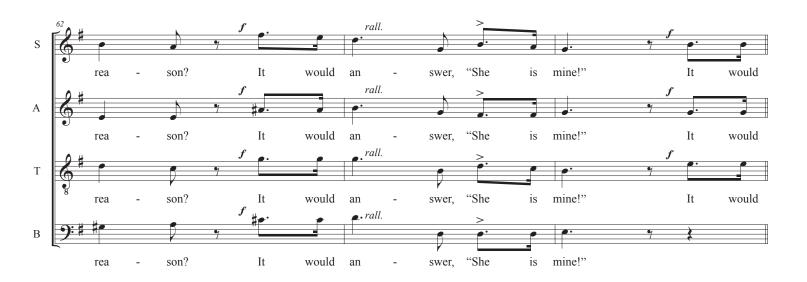


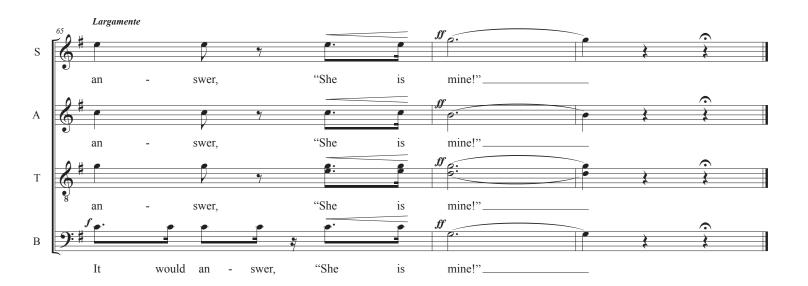












Novello, Ewer, and Company (1869-1885)

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