



Eight
Four-Part Songs



No. 2

O Love, they
wrong thee much

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry
(1848-1918)

O Love! they wrong thee much
That say thy sweet is bitter,
When thy rich fruit is such
As nothing can be sweeter.
Fair house of joy and bliss,
Where truest pleasure is,
I do adore thee:
I know thee what thou art,
I serve thee with my heart,
And fall before thee.

Second section of "Fain would I change that note."
Captain Tobias Hume's *The First Part of Ayres* (or *Musicall Humors*, 1605)

O Love, they wrong thee much

C. Hubert H. Parry

Moderato

The first system of the musical score is for four voices: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). It is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo is marked 'Moderato'. The lyrics are: 'O Love! O Love! they wrong thee much That'. The music features a piano (*p*) dynamic at the start, followed by a crescendo (*cresc.*) leading to the final word 'That'. The vocal lines are written in treble clef for S and A, and bass clef for T and B. The lyrics are aligned with the notes: 'O Love!' on the first two notes, 'O Love!' on the next two, 'they wrong' on the next two, and 'thee much That' on the final two notes.

S O Love! O Love! they wrong thee much That

A O Love! O Love! they wrong thee much That

T O Love! O Love! they wrong thee much That

B O Love! O Love! they wrong thee much That

The second system of the musical score continues the four-voice setting. It begins with a measure rest for all voices, followed by the lyrics: 'say thy sweet is bit - ter, bit - ter, When thy rich fruit is'. The music features a forte (*f*) dynamic for the first part, a piano (*p*) dynamic for the second part, and a crescendo (*cresc.*) leading to the final word 'is'. The vocal lines are written in treble clef for S and A, and bass clef for T and B. The lyrics are aligned with the notes: 'say thy sweet is bit - ter,' on the first four notes, 'bit - ter,' on the next two, and 'When thy rich fruit is' on the final four notes.

S say thy sweet is bit - ter, bit - ter, When thy rich fruit is

A say thy sweet is bit - ter, bit - ter, When thy rich fruit is

T say thy sweet is bit - ter, bit - ter, When thy rich fruit is

B say thy sweet is bit - ter, bit - ter, When thy rich fruit is

O Love, they wrong thee much

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S such As noth - ing can be sweet - er, sweet - er. Fair

A such As noth - ing can be sweet - er, sweet - er. Fair

T such As noth - ing, noth - ing can be sweet - er, sweet - er. Fair

B such As noth - ing can be sweet - er, sweet - er. Fair

12

S house of joy and bliss, Where tru - est pleas - ure is, I do a -

A house of joy and bliss, Where tru - est pleas - ure is, Fair

T house of joy and bliss, Where tru - est pleas - ure is, Fair

B house of joy and bliss, Where tru - est pleas - ure is, Fair

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S dore, I do a - dore,

A house of joy and bliss, I do a - dore,

T house of joy and bliss, I do a -

B house of joy and bliss, Where tru - est pleas - ure

O Love, they wrong thee much

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S *f* I do a - dore thee,

A *cresc.* I do a - dore thee, Fair house of joy and bliss, *dim.* I do a -

T *cresc.* dore thee, Fair house of joy and bliss, *dim.* fair

B *cresc.* is, I do a - dore thee, Fair house of

23

S *p* I do a - dore thee:

A *p* dore thee, I do a - dore thee:

T *p* house of joy and bliss, I do a - dore thee:

B *p* joy and bliss, I do a - dore thee:

a tempo *p* *Animando* *cresc.*

S I know thee what thou art, I serve thee with my

A *a tempo* *p* *Animando* *cresc.*

I know thee what thou art, I serve thee with my

T *a tempo* *p* *Animando* *cresc.*

I know thee what thou art, I serve thee with my

B *a tempo* *p* *Animando* *cresc.*

I know thee what thou art, I serve thee with my

O Love, they wrong thee much

30

S heart, And fall be - fore thee, and fall be -

A heart, And fall be - fore thee, and fall be -

T heart, And fall be - fore thee, and fall be -

B heart, And fall be - fore thee, and fall be -

34

S fore thee, and fall be - fore thee; I know thee, I

A fore thee, and fall be - fore thee; I

T fore thee, and fall be - fore thee; I know thee, I

B fore thee, and fall be - fore thee; I fall, I

dim. *poco rit.* *a tempo cresc.* *mf*

38

S serve thee, And fall be - fore thee;

A know thee, I serve thee, I know thee, I

T serve thee, I know thee, I serve thee, And fall be -

B fall, I fall, I fall, And fall,

O Love, they wrong thee much

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S I know thee, I serve thee, And fall

A serve thee, And fall be - fore thee, and fall be -

T fore thee, and fall, I know thee, I

B fall be - fore thee, and fall be -

46

S and fall be - fore thee.

A fore thee, and fall be - fore thee.

T serve thee, and fall be - fore thee.

B fore thee, be - fore thee.

rit. molto *p* *dim.* *pp*

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