

# Heart of Spring

John Shaw Neilson (1872–1942)

Mark Chapman (1960-)

O HEART of Spring!

Spirit of light and love and joyous day  
So soon to faint beneath the fiery Summer:  
Still smiles the Earth, eager for thee alway:  
Welcome art thou, so ever short thy stay,  
Thou bold, thou blithe newcomer!  
Whither, oh whither this thy journeying,  
O Heart of Spring!

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O Heart of Spring!

After the stormy days of Winter's reign  
When the keen winds their last lament are sighing  
The Sun shall raise thee up to life again:  
In thy dim death thou shalt not suffer pain:  
Surely thou dost not fear this quiet dying?  
Whither, oh whither blithely journeying,  
O Heart of Spring!

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O Heart of Spring!

Youth's emblem, ancient as unchanging light,  
Uncomprehended, unconsumed, still burning:  
Oh that we could, as thee, rise from the night  
To find a world of blossoms lilac-white  
And long-winged swallows unafraid returning...  
Whither, oh whither this thy journeying,  
O Heart of Spring!

Brightly (♩ = 100)

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Piano (ad lib.)

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

O Heart of Spring! Spi-rit of light\_ and love\_ and joy - ous day O Heart of Spring!

10

S

A

T

B.

Pno.

Heart of Spring! Spi-rit of light\_ and love\_ and joy - ous day\_

day O Heart of Spring! So soon. to faint\_ be - neath the fie - ry

Spring! O Heart\_ of Spring! So soon. to faint\_ be -

Spi-rit of light\_ and love\_ and joy - ous day\_ O Heart of Spring! So soon, so

19

S  
Still smiles the Earth, ea - ger for thee al -

A  
Sum - mer, faint be - neath the fie - ry Sum - mer: Still smiles the Earth, —

T  
neath the fie - ry Sum - mer, fie - ry Sum - mer:

B.  
soon to faint be - neath the fie - ry Sum - mer:

Pno.

27

S  
way, — ea - ger for thee, — ea - ger for thee al - way: Wel - come art

A  
ea - ger for thee al - way, — ea - ger for thee al - way: Wel - come art

T  
Still smiles the Earth, — ea - ger for thee al - way: Wel - come art

B.  
Wel - come art thou,

Pno.

34

S  
 thou, wel-come art thou, so e - ver short thy stay, Thou blithe, — *mp*

A  
 thou, — wel-come art thou, so e - ver short thy stay, Thou bold, — thou blithe, — *mp*

T  
 thou, wel-come art thou, so e - ver short thy stay, Thou bold, — thou blithe, — *mp*

B.  
 wel-come art thou, so e - ver short thy stay, — Thou bold, — *mp*

Pno.  
*mp*

43

S  
 — thou bold, thou blithe new - co - mer, — new - co - mer! —

A  
 — thou bold, — thou blithe new - co - mer, new - co - mer! —

T  
 — thou bold, — thou blithe new - co - mer, — new - co - mer! —

B.  
 — thou bold, — thou blithe new - co - mer, new - co - mer! —

Pno.

50

S  
Whi - ther, oh\_ whi - ther, whi - ther oh\_ whi - ther, this\_ thy jour - ney - ing,

A  
Whi-ther, oh whi - ther, whi-ther oh whi - ther, this\_ thy jour - ney - ing,

T  
Whi - ther, oh\_ whi - ther, whi - ther oh\_ whi - ther, this\_ thy jour - ney - ing,

B.  
Whi-ther, oh whi - ther, whi-ther oh whi - ther, this\_ thy jour - ney - ing,

Pno.

56

S  
jour - ney - ing, O Heart of Spring, O Heart of Spring, O Heart, O Heart, O Heart\_

A  
jour - ney - ing, O Heart of Spring, O Heart, O Heart, O Heart\_

T  
jour - ney - ing, O Heart of Spring, O Heart, O Heart, O Heart\_

B.  
jour - ney - ing, O Heart, O Heart, O Heart\_

Pno.

Meno mosso (♩ = 85)

64

S *mp*  
of Spring! Ah \_\_\_\_\_ Ah \_\_\_\_\_ Ah \_\_\_\_\_ the

A *mf*  
\_\_\_\_\_ of Spring! O Heart of Spring! Af-ter the stor - my\_ days of Win - ter's reign the

T *mp*  
s \_\_\_\_\_ of Spring! Ah \_\_\_\_\_ Ah \_\_\_\_\_ Ah \_\_\_\_\_ Ah\_

B. *mp*  
\_\_\_\_\_ of Spring! Ah \_\_\_\_\_ Ah \_\_\_\_\_ Ah \_\_\_\_\_ Ah\_

Pno.

73

S  
stor - my\_ days\_ of\_ Win - ter's reign,

A  
stor - my\_ days\_ of\_ Win - ter's reign,

T *s*  
\_\_\_\_\_ Ah \_\_\_\_\_ When the keen winds their\_ last la - ment, their

B.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Ah \_\_\_\_\_ When the keen winds their last\_ la - ment, their

Pno.

81 *mp*

S  
When the keen winds their last la - ment, their

*mp*

A  
When the keen winds their last la - ment, their

T  
last la - ment are sigh - ing, their last la - ment, their

B.  
last la - ment are sigh - ing,

Pno.

89 **Poco piu mosso** (♩ = 96)

S  
last la - ment are sigh - ing,

A  
last la - ment are sigh - ing,

T  
last la - ment are sigh - ing, *mf* The Sun shall raise thee up to

B.  
last la - ment are sigh - ing, *mf*

Pno.

96 *mf*

S The Sun shall raise thee up\_\_\_\_\_ to

A *mf*  
The Sun shall raise thee up\_\_\_\_\_ to life\_\_\_ a - gain, shall raise thee up\_\_\_ to

T  
life\_\_\_ a - gain, shall raise thee up\_\_\_ to life,\_\_\_\_\_ the Sun shall raise thee up to

Pno. *mf*

104 *rit.* **Meno mosso** (♩ = 85)

S life\_\_\_ a - gain, shall raise thee up to life\_\_\_ a - gain: In thy dim

A life,\_\_\_\_\_ The Sun shall raise thee up\_\_\_\_\_ to life a - gain: In thy dim

T life a - gain, shall raise thee up\_\_\_\_\_ to life a - gain: In thy dim

B. *mf*  
The Sun shall raise thee up\_\_\_\_\_ to life\_\_\_ a - gain: In thy dim death,\_\_\_\_\_

Pno.



113

S death, in thy dim death\_ thou shalt not suf - fer pain: *p*

A death, in thy dim death\_ thou shalt not suf - fer pain: *p*

T death, in thy dim death\_ thou shalt\_ not suf - fer pain: *p*

B. in\_ thy dim death\_ thou shalt not suf - fer pain: Sure-ly thou *p* *mf*

Pno. *p* *mf*

122

S Sure-ly thou dost not, dost\_ not fear\_ this qui - et dy - ing? Whi - ther, oh *mf*

A Sure-ly thou dost not, dost\_ not fear\_ this qui - et dy - ing? Whi-ther, oh *mf*

T Sure-ly thou dost not, dost\_ not fear\_ this qui - et dy - ing? Whi - ther, oh *mf*

B. dost not, sure-ly thou dost not fear\_ this qui - et dy - ing? Whi-ther, oh *mf*

Pno. *mf*

130

S  
whi - ther, whi - ther oh whi - ther, this thy jour - ney - ing,

A  
whi - ther, whi - ther oh whi - ther, this thy jour - ney - ing,

T  
whi - ther, whi - ther oh whi - ther, this thy jour - ney - ing,

B.  
whi - ther, whi - ther oh whi - ther, this thy jour - ney - ing,

Pno.

135

S  
jour - ney - ing, O Heart of Spring, O Heart of Spring, O Heart, O Heart, O Heart.

A  
jour - ney - ing, O Heart of Spring, O Heart, O Heart, O Heart.

T  
jour - ney - ing, O Heart, O Heart, O Heart.

B.  
jour - ney - ing, O Heart of Spring, O Heart, O Heart, O Heart.

Pno.

143

Tempo primo (♩ = 100)

S of Spring! \_\_\_\_\_

A \_\_\_\_\_ of Spring! \_\_\_\_\_ *mf* O Heart of Spring! Youth's em - blem,

T <sup>s</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ of Spring! *mf* O Heart of Spring! Youth's em - blem, an - cient as un -

B. \_\_\_\_\_ of Spring! \_\_\_\_\_

Pno. *mf*

151

S O Heart of Spring! Youth's em - blem, an - cient

A an - cient as un - chang - ing light, O Heart of Spring!

T <sup>s</sup> chang - ing light, O Heart of Spring! O Heart of

B. O Heart of Spring! Youth's em - blem, an - cient as un - chang - ing

Pno.

S  
as un - chang - ing light, —

A  
Un - com - pre - hen - ded, un - con - sumed, still bur - ning, un - con - sumed, still

T  
Spring! Un - com - pre - hen - ded, un - con - sumed, still bur - ning,

B.  
light, O Heart of Spring! — Un - com - pre - hen - ded, un - con - sumed, still

Pno.

S  
Oh that we could, as thee, — rise from the night, as thee, — rise from the

A  
bur - ning, bur - ning: Oh that we could, as thee, — rise from the night, as

T  
still — bur - ning: Oh that we could, as

B.  
bur - ning, bur - ning:

Pno.

174

S *p mf*  
 night, rise from the night To find a world of blossoms li-lac-white

A *p mf* *p*  
 thee, rise from the night To find a world of blossoms li-lac-white And

T *p mf*  
 thee, rise from the night To find a world of blossoms li-lac-white

B. *mf*  
 To find a world of blossoms li-lac-white.

Pno.

182

S *p*  
 And long-wing-ed swallows un-a-fraid re-tur-ning, re-tur-ning, re-

A  
 long-wing-ed swallows un-a-fraid re-tur-ning, un-a-fraid re-

T *mp*  
 And long-wing-ed swallows un-a-fraid re-

B. *mp*  
 And long-wing-ed swallows un-a-fraid re-tur-ning, re-

Pno.

189

S  
tur - ning, Whi - ther, oh\_ whi - ther, whi - ther oh\_ whi - ther, this\_ thy

A  
tur - ning, Whi-ther, oh whi - ther, whi-ther oh whi - ther, this\_ thy

T  
tur - ning, Whi - ther, oh\_ whi - ther, whi - ther oh\_ whi - ther, this\_ thy

B.  
tur - ning, Whi-ther, oh whi - ther, whi-ther oh whi - ther, this\_ thy

Pno.

*Espressivo* (♩ = 84)

196

S  
jour - ney - ing, jour - ney - ing, O Heart of Spring, O Heart of Spring, O Heart,\_\_\_

A  
jour - ney - ing, jour - ney - ing, O Heart of Spring, O Heart,\_\_\_

T  
jour - ney - ing, jour - ney - ing, O Heart of Spring, O Heart,\_\_\_

B.  
jour - ney - ing, jour - ney - ing, O Heart,\_\_\_

Pno.

203 Un poco piu mosso (♩ = 90)

S *p* *mf* *f*  
 O Heart, O Heart, O Heart of Spring!

A *p* *mf* *f*  
 O Heart, O Heart, O Heart of Spring!

T *p* *mf* *f*  
 O Heart, O Heart, O Heart of Spring!

B. *p* *mf* *f*  
 O Heart, O Heart, O Heart of Spring!

Pno.