



VICTORIAN WOMEN

**Behold the Sun
in gold descending**

part-song from

“The Masked Shepherd”

Florence A. Marshall

(1843-1922)

Florence Ashton Marshall, née Thomas, (1843-1922) was born in Rome, Italy, and studied music at the Royal Academy of Music with William Sterndale Bennett, John Goss and George A. Macfarren. In 1864 she married businessman, writer, and music collector Julian Marshall. She and her husband both contributed to Grove's Dictionary of Music and Musicians. She was elected an associate of the Philharmonic Society and conducted the South Hampstead Orchestra. She and her husband were also founding members of the Musical Association. She published a biography of Handel and the book *Life and Letters of Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley* (1889). Florence Marshall composed solo songs, part songs, educational pieces, and operettas. Selected works including the operettas *The Masked Shepherd* (1879) and *Prince Sprite* (1897).

Behold the sun in gold descending,
Blushes o'er the landscape red,
And all the hues of evening blending,
Sinks into his western bed.
The dying day, the waning light,
Bid us whisper soft "Goodnight."

The shadows lengthen long and slow,
A ruddy sheen glows in the brook;
The weary oxen plaintive low,
And long to quit the pressing yoke,
The dying day, the waning light
Bid us whisper soft "Goodnight."

The birds have done their evening song,
One by one their voices cease;
All nature to its rest has gone,
And all is silence, all is peace,
The dying day, the waning light,
Bid us whisper soft "Goodnight."

Edwin Simpson-Baikie

Behold the Sun in gold descending

Florence A. Marshall

Andante con moto ♩ = 120

S *mp* Be - hold the sun in gold de - scend - ing, Blush - es o'er the

A *mp* Be - hold the sun in gold de - scend - ing, Blush - es o'er the

T *mp* Be - hold the sun in gold de - scend - ing, Blush - es o'er the

B *mp* Be - hold the sun in gold de - scend - ing, Blush - es o'er the

S ⁴ *p* land - scape red, And all the hues of eve - ning blend - ing, *cresc.* Sinks in - to his *dim.*

A *p* land - scape red, And all the hues of eve - ning blend - ing, *cresc.* Sinks in - to his *dim.*

T *p* land - scape red, And all the hues of eve - ning blend - ing, *cresc.* Sinks in - to his *dim.*

B *p* land - scape red, And all the hues of eve - ning blend - ing, *cresc.* Sinks in - to his *dim.*

8

S *p* west - ern - bed. The dy - ing - day, the wa - ning light,

A *p* west - ern bed. The dy - ing day, the wa - ning light, Bid us

T *p* west - ern bed. The dy - ing day, the wa - ning light,

B *p* west - ern bed. The dy - ing day, the wa - ning light, Bid us

11

S *dim.* Bid us whis - per - soft *p* "Good - night." *mf* The sha - dows length - en

A *dim.* whis - per, whis - per soft *p* "Good - night." *mf* The sha - dows length - en

T *dim.* Bid us whis - per soft *p* "Good - night." *mf* The sha - dows length - en

B *dim.* whis - per, whis - per soft *p* "Good - night." *mf* The sha - dows length - en

14

S long and slow, A rud - dy sheen glows in the brook; The wea - ry ox - en

A long and slow, A rud - dy sheen glows in the brook; The wea - ry ox - en

T long and slow, A rud - dy sheen glows in the brook; The wea - ry ox - en

B long and slow, A rud - dy sheen glows in the brook; The wea - ry ox - en

Behold the Sun in gold descending

18

S plain - tive low, And long to quit the press - ing yoke, The dy - ing day, the *poco dim.*

A plain - tive low, And long to quit the press - ing yoke, The dy - ing day, the *poco dim.*

T plain - tive low, And long to quit the press - ing yoke, The dy - ing day, the *poco dim.*

B plain - tive low, And long to quit the press - ing yoke, The dy - ing day, the *poco dim.*

22

S wa - ning light Bid us whis - per soft "Good - night."

A wa - ning light Bid us whis - per, whis - per soft "Good - night."

T wa - ning light Bid us whis - per soft "Good - night."

B wa - ning light Bid us whis - per, whis - per soft "Good - night."

25 *molto p*

S The birds have done their eve - ning song, One by one their *molto p*

A The birds have done their eve - ning song, One by one their *molto p*

T The birds have done their eve - ning song, One by one their *molto p*

B The birds have done their eve - ning song, One by one their

Behold the Sun in gold descending

29

S voi - ces cease; All na - ture to its rest has gone, And all is si - lence, *dim.* *p*

A voi - ces cease; All na - ture to its rest has gone, And all is si - lence, *dim.* *p*

T voi - ces cease; All na - ture to its rest has gone, And all is si - lence, *dim.* *p*

B voi - ces cease; All na - ture to its rest has gone, And all is si - lence, *dim.* *p*

33 *morendo sin' al fine*

S all is peace, The dy - ing day, the wa - ning light, *p*

A all is peace, The dy - ing day, the wa - ning light, Bid us *p*

T all is peace, The dy - ing day, the wa - ning light, *p*

B all is peace, The dy - ing day, the wa - ning light, Bid us *p*

36 *pp*

S Bid us whis - per soft "Good - night." *pp*

A whis - per, whis - per soft "Good - night." *pp*

T Bid us whis - per soft "Good - night." *pp*

B whis - per, whis - per soft "Good - night." *pp*

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