

WHO WILL BELIEVE MY VERSE?

Wm. Shakespeare (Sonnet XVII)

(from "Book of Sonnets" - for Leslie)

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(4/4) ♩ = 88

Soprano

Alto

Baritone

Piano

mf *lightly* *p* *mf*

f *f* *f*

Who will be- lieve my verse in time to
 Who will be- lieve my verse in time to
 Who will be- lieve my verse in time to come

7

come

come

mf *mf* *f*

If it were fill'd ___ with your most high de- serts?
 If it were fill'd ___ with your most high de- serts, Your most high de - serts?
 If it were fill'd ___ with your most high de- serts, If it were fill'd ___ with your most high_ de - serts? Though

p *mf*

Gray: Who will believe my verse p. 2

15

f Though yet hea - ven knows It is but as a

f Though yet hea - ven knows It is but as a tomb Which

yet hea - ven knows It is ___ but a tomb Which

21

tomb Which hides ___ your ___ life, And shows not half your parts.

hides ___ your ___ life, And shows not half your parts.

hides ___ your ___ life, And ___ shows not half your parts, And shows not half your..

dim.

dim.

dim.

mp

dim.

Gray: Who will believe my verse p. 3

26

p

Yet hea - ven knows, It is a tomb, Which hides your life..

p

Yet hea - ven knows, It is a tomb, Which hides, *mp* If I could write the

p

Yet hea - ven knows, It is a tomb, Which hides your life,

32

f

If I could write the beau- ty of your eyes,

mf

And in fresh __ num- bers __ num

f

beau - ty, beau- ty of your eyes,

mf

And in fresh __ num- bers __ num

If I could write the beau - ty of __ your eyes, And in fresh __

Gray: Who will believe my verse p. 4

38

- ber all your grac - es, *f* The age to come would say, "This po - et lies; Such

- ber all your grac - es, *f* The age to come would say, "This po - et lies; Such

num - ber all your grac - es, *f* The age to come would say, "This po - et lies; Such

f *mf*

44

heav'n- ly touch - es ne'er touch'd earth - ly fac - es. *dim.* This *p*

heav'n - ly touch - es ne'er touch'd earth - ly, *dim.* heav'n- ly touch - es ne'er touch'd earth - ly fac - es.

heav'n - ly touch - es ne'er touch'd earth - ly fac - es, earth-ly fac-es,

dim.

Gray: Who will believe my verse p. 5

50

mf *f* *pp*

— po - et lies, Such heav'n -ly touch -es Ne'er touch'd earth - ly fac-es." So should my

p *mf* *f* *pp*

This po - et lies, Such heav'n -ly touch -es Ne'er touch'd earth - ly fac-es." So should my

p *mf* *f* *pp*

This po - et lies, Such heav'n -ly touch -es Ne'er touch'd earth - ly fac-es." So should my

sempre piano

58 (4/4) ♩ = 56

pap - ers,

p >

pap - ers, So should my pap - ers yel-low'd with their age,

p

pap - ers, So should my pap - ers yel-low'd with their age,

legato

f *p*

Gray: Who will believe my verse p. 6

61

mf

So should my pa - pers yel-low'd with their age, Be

mf

So should my pap - ers yel-low'd with their age, Yel-low'd with their age, Be

mf

So should my pap - ers yel-low'd with their age, Yel-low'd with their age Be

cresc.

64

f

scorn'd, Scorn'd like old men of less truth than tongue, *diminuendo*

f

scorn'd, Scorn'd like old men of less truth than tongue, *diminuendo* Of less truth than tongue, *mf*

scorn'd like old men of less truth than tongue, And your true rights

f

diminuendo

Gray: Who will believe my verse p. 7

68

And your true rights be term'd a poet's
And your true rights be term'd a poet's rage, Poet's
be term'd a poet's rage, Poet's

cresc.

71

rage
rage
rage

ff *diminuendo*

ff *diminuendo*

ff *diminuendo*

Gray: Who will believe my verse p. 8

74 (2 / ♩)

mp poco accelerando e cresc.

And stretch - èd me - ter Of an an - tic

mp poco accelerando e cresc.

And stretch - èd me - ter Of an an - tic, of an an - tic

mp

And stretch - èd me - ter Of an an - tic song, Of an an - tic

pp

79 ♩ = 88

song.

song.

song.

mp as before

Gray: Who will believe my verse p. 9

83 *f* Who will be - lieve my verse in time to come *f* *mf* If it were fill'd

Who will be - lieve my verse in time to, If it were fill'd

Who will be - lieve my verse in time to come

88 *f* with your most high de - serts? *f* But were some child of

with your most *mf* high de - serts? But were some

If it were fill'd with your most high de - serts?

pp sempre cresc.

Gray: Who will believe my verse p. 10

93

yours A - live at that time,
 child of yours, A - live at time,
 But if some child of yours A - live at

98

that time, You should live twice, You should live twice, In
 You should live twice, You should live twice, In
 You should live twice, You should live twice, In

Gray: Who will believe my verse p. 11

103

sub. pp

it, And in my rhyme, *sub. pp* Some child of yours

it, And in my rhyme, *sub. pp* Some child of, Some child of

it And in my rhyme, Some child of yours

p *f*

109

non rit.

A - live that time, And in my rhyme. *non rit.*

yours, A - live that time, *non rit.* And in my rhyme.

A - live that time, And in my rhyme.

non rit. ppp