

# It was a Lover and his Lass

As you like it, Act V, Scene iii

William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

Thomas Morley (c. 1557-1602)

Arranged by J. Frederick Bridge (1844-1924)

The musical score is arranged in three systems. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The first system begins with a 'Fast' tempo marking and a piano (*p*) dynamic. The lyrics are: 'It was a lov - er / Be - tween the a - cres / This car - ol they be - / And there - fore take the'. The second system starts at measure 6 and includes dynamics *cresc.*, *f*, and *p*. The lyrics are: 'and his lass, With a hey, and a ho, and a hey / of the rye, / gan that hour, / pres - ent time, nonino, and a hey — noni noni-'. The third system starts at measure 11 and includes a *cresc.* dynamic. The lyrics are: 'no. That o'er the green corn - field did pass / These pret - ty coun - try folks would lie, / How that a life was but a flower / For love is crown - ed with the prime'. The piano accompaniment features various textures, including chords and moving lines in both hands.

**Fast** *p*

It was a lov - er  
Be - tween the a - cres  
This car - ol they be -  
And there - fore take the

*mf* *p*

6 *cresc.* *f* *p*

and his lass, With a hey, and a ho, and a hey nonino, and a hey — noni noni-  
of the rye,  
gan that hour,  
pres - ent time,

*cresc.* *f* *p*

11 *cresc.*

no. That o'er the green corn - field did pass In the spring time, the  
These pret - ty coun - try folks would lie,  
How that a life was but a flower  
For love is crown - ed with the prime

*cresc.*

16 *f* *p* *cresc.*

spring time, In spring time, the on-ly pretty ring time, When birds do sing, hey

21 *f* *p*

ding a ding, ding, hey ding a ding, ding, hey ding a ding, ding, Sweet

24 *cresc.* *f*

lov - ers love the spring. In spring time. In spring time, the on -

29 *p* *cresc.* *f*

ly pret - ty ring time, When birds do sing, hey ding a ding, ding, hey

1-3  
a tempo

33

ding a ding, ding, hey ding a ding, ding, Sweet lov - ers love the spring.

*p* *rall.* *mf*  
*a tempo*

37

*a tempo*