



Spring returns

Robert Lucas Pearsall (1795-1856)

Allegretto ♩ = 88

S 1 Spring re - turns, and earth is smil - - - - ing,

S 2 Spring re - turns, and earth is smil - - - - ing,

A Spring re - turns, and

T Spring re -

B

5

S 1 Green a - gain is ev - 'ry tree;

S 2 Green a - gain is ev - 'ry tree; Flow'rets

A earth is smil - - - - ing, Flow - 'rets span - gle,

T turns, and earth is smil - - - - ing, Green a - gain is ev - 'ry tree;

B Spring re - turns, and Flow'rets span - gle,



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cresc. *p*

S 1 Flow'rets span-ple, eye be - guil - ing, Birds are sing - ing

S 2 span - gle, eye be - guil - ing, Birds are sing - ing

A eye be - guil - ing, Birds are sing - - - ing, sing -

T Flow - 'rets span-ple, eye be - guil - ing, Birds are

B flow - 'rets span-ple, eye be - guil - ing, Birds are

13

S 1 cheer - - - ful - ly.

S 2 are sing - ing cheer - ful - ly.

A - - - ing cheer - ful - ly.

T sing - ing cheer - ful - ly.

B sing - - - sing - ing cheer - ful - ly.

17

f *dim.*

S 1 Why art thou des - pair - ing? Love doth

S 2 Why art thou des - pair - ing? Love

A Why art thou des - pair - ing? Why art thou des -

T Why art thou des - pair - ing?

B Why art thou des -

Thyr - sis, why art thou des -

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S 1 now the world _____ per - vade, love doth now per - vade;

S 2 _____ doth now the world _____ per -

A *dim.* pair - - - ing? Love doth now the world per - vade;

T *dim.* Love doth now _____ per - vade;

B pair - ing? Love doth now per - vade; _____

25

S 1 *p* Bold - er grown is ev - 'ry shep - herd, *cresc.*

S 2 *p* vade; Bold - - - er _____ ev - 'ry shep - herd, Kind - *cresc.*

A *p* Bold - er grown is ev - 'ry shep - herd, *cresc.*

T *p* Bold - er grown is ev - 'ry shep - herd, *cresc.*

B *p* Bold - er grown is ev - 'ry shep - herd, *cresc.*

Bold - er grown is ev - 'ry shep - - - - - herd,

29

S 1 *pp* Kind - er _____ ev - 'ry vil - - - lage maid.

S 2 *pp* - - - er ev - 'ry _____ vil - lage maid.

A *pp* Kind - er _____ ev - 'ry _____ vil - lage maid.

T *pp* Kind - er ev - 'ry _____ vil - lage maid.

B *pp* Kind - er ev - 'ry vil - lage maid.

Kind - er ev - 'ry vil - lage maid.

Robert Lucas Pearsall (1795-1856) was born at Clifton Hill, Bristol, into a wealthy Quaker family. His father was an army officer and amateur musician. He was privately educated and practiced as a barrister in Bristol. In 1825, after suffering a stroke, he took his family to live abroad. He sold the family estate in Willsbridge and, in 1842, bought the Schloss Wartensee, a ruined medieval keep near Rorschach in Switzerland and spent several years restoring it. He remained there until his death. Pearsall was an amateur composer and many of his compositions were not published until after his death. He is best remembered for his part-songs and madrigals but also wrote orchestral works, anthems, services, musical treatises, and edited a Catholic hymnal. He kept in touch with his home city of Bristol and wrote many pieces for the Bristol Madrigal Society. He also composed poetry, some of which he used for his madrigals, such as 'Why Do the Roses' and 'Why should the cuckoo's tuneful note'. The particle "de" often spelled in his name is a feature added after his death by his daughter Philippa.

Spring returns, and earth is smiling,
Green again is every tree;
Flowerets spangle, eye beguiling,
Birds are singing cheerfully.

Thyrsis, why art thou despairing?
Love doth now the world pervade;
Bolder grown is every shepherd,
Kinder every village maid.

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