



Shakespeare Songs
No. 10

**Take, O, take,
those lips away**

**George A. Macfarren
(1813-1887)**

Sir George Alexander Macfarren (1813-1887) was born in London. From early youth, he suffered from poor health and weak eyesight. His eyesight continually deteriorated until he became totally blind in 1860. However, his blindness had little effect on his productivity. Macfarren began to study music when he was fourteen and, at sixteen, entered the Royal Academy of Music. Because of his eyesight, he abandoned performance and concentrated on composition. He later taught at the Academy, eventually becoming a principal. He was also appointed professor of music at Cambridge University in 1875. He was conductor at Covent Garden, London; founder the Handel Society; program note writer for the Philharmonic Society; and editor of *Handel and Purcell*. He wrote 18 operas, 13 oratorios and cantatas, 9 symphonies, and 162 songs. He was active as writer of part-songs, literature for the many amateur choirs appearing throughout the country. He was knighted in 1883 on the same day as Arthur Sullivan and George Grove. His brother Walter Macfarren (1826-1905) was a pianist, composer and professor of the Royal Academy.

Take, O, take those lips away,
That so sweetly were forsworn;
And those eyes, the break of day,
Lights that do mislead the morn:
But my kisses bring again, bring again;
Seals of love, but sealed in vain, sealed in vain.

Measure for Measure
Act 4, Scene 1
William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

Take, O, take, those lips away

G. A. Macfarren

Andante espressivo ♩ = 60

S Take, O, take those lips a - way, That so sweet - ly were for -

A Take, O, take those lips a - way, That so sweet - - - ly

T Take, O, take those lips a - way, That so sweet - ly were for -

B Take, O, take those lips a - way, That so sweet - ly were for -

4
S sworn; Take, O, take those lips a - way, That so

A were for - sworn; O, take those lips a - way, That so

T sworn; O, take those lips a - way, That so

B sworn; O, take those lips a - way, That so

Take, O, take, those lips away

7

S sweet - ly were for - sworn; *mf* And those eyes, the break of

A sweet - ly were for - sworn; And those eyes, the break of

T sweet - ly were for - sworn; the break of

B sweet - ly were for - sworn; And those eyes, the break of

10

S *f* day, Lights that do mis - lead the morn: *cresc.* *dim.*

A *f* day, the break of day, Lights that do mis - lead the morn, mis - lead the *cresc.* *dim.*

T *f* day, Lights that do mis - lead the morn: *cresc.* *dim.*

B *f* day, Lights that do mis - lead the morn: *cresc.* *dim.*

13

S *p* Take, O, take, O, take those lips a - way,

A *p* morn: O, take those lips, O, take those lips, O, take those

T *p* O, take those lips, O, take those lips, O, take those

B O, take those

Take, O, take, those lips away

16

S those lips, a -

A lips, O, take those lips a - way, those lips, a -

T lips, O, take those lips a - way, take those lips a - way, take, O, take those lips a -

B lips, O, take those lips a - way, those lips, a -

19

S way; But my kiss - es bring a - gain,

A way; But my kiss - es bring a - gain, bring a -

T way; But my kiss - es bring a - gain, bring a -

B way; But my kiss - es bring a - gain, bring a -

22

S bring a - gain; Seals of

A gain, bring a - gain; Seals of

T gain, bring a - gain; Seals of

B gain, bring a - gain; Seals of

Take, O, take, those lips away

25

S love, but seal'd in vain, *f*

A love, but seal'd in vain, in vain, *f*

T love, but seal'd in vain, but seal'd in vain, *f*

B love, but seal'd in vain, *f*

28

S seal'd in vain, seal'd in *p*

A — but seal'd in vain, seal'd in *p*

T seal'd in vain, seal'd in *p*

B seal'd in vain, but seal'd in *p*

31

S vain, seal'd in vain. *pp*

A vain, seal'd in vain. *pp*

T vain, seal'd in vain. *pp*

B vain, seal'd in vain. *pp*

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