



# Great God of love

MADRIGAL  
for eight voices

Robert Lucas Pearsall  
(1795-1856)

**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.

Great God of love, some pity show,  
On Amarillis, bent Thy bow;  
Do Thou, we pray, her soul inspire,  
And make her feel the self-same fire,  
that wastes her lover's heart away.

# Great God of love

R. L. Pearsall

Slowly ♩ = 60

The musical score is arranged in eight staves, labeled S1 through B2. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The tempo is marked 'Slowly' with a quarter note equal to 60 beats per minute. The dynamics are marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic throughout. The lyrics are: 'Great God of love, some pi - ty show, some'. The vocal parts are: S1 (Soprano 1), S2 (Soprano 2), A1 (Alto 1), A2 (Alto 2), T1 (Tenor 1), T2 (Tenor 2), B1 (Bass 1), and B2 (Bass 2). The lyrics are distributed across the staves as follows: S1: Great God of; S2: Great God of; A1: Great God of love, some; A2: Great God of love, some pi - ty show, some; T1: Great God of love, some pi - ty show,; T2: Great God of love, some pi - ty show,; B1: Great God of love, some pi - ty show,; B2: Great God of love, some pi - ty show,.



## Great God of love

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S 1 love, some pi - ty show, some pi - - -

S 2 love, some pi - ty show,

A 1 pi - - - ty show, pi -

A 2 pi - ty show, love, some pi -

T 1 Great God of love, some

T 2 - - ty show,

B 1 Great God of love, some pi - ty, some pi - ty

B 2 Great God of love, some pi - ty show, some

11

S 1 - ty show, On A - ma - ril - lis, on A - ma -

S 2 On A - ma - ril - lis, on A - ma - ril - lis

A 1 - - - ty show,

A 2 - - - ty show, On A - ma - ril - lis

T 1 pi - - - ty show,

T 2 On A - ma - ril - lis bend Thy bow;

B 1 show,

B 2 pi - ty show, On A - ma -

Great God of love

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S 1 *f* ril - lis bend Thy bow; *p* Do Thou, we pray, her

S 2 bend Thy bow; *p* Do Thou, we pray, her

A 1 *f* On A - ma - ril - lis bend Thy bow; *p* Do Thou, we

A 2 *f* bend Thy bow; *p* Do Thou, we pray, her

T 1 *f* On A - ma - ril - lis bend Thy bow;

T 2 *f* on A - ma - ril - lis bend Thy bow; *p* Do

B 1 *f* On A - ma - ril - lis bend Thy bow;

B 2 *f* ril - lis bend Thy bow;

21

S 1 soul in - spire, *cresc.* And make her feel the self - *p*

S 2 soul in - spire, *cresc.* And make her feel the self - same *p*

A 1 pray, her soul in - spire,

A 2 soul in - spire,

T 1 *p* Do Thou her soul *cresc.* in - spire, *p* And make her

T 2 *p* Thou, we pray, her soul in - spire, *cresc.* And make her feel, *p*

B 1 *p* Do Thou, we pray, her soul *cresc.* in - spire, *p* And make her

B 2 *p* Do Thou her soul *cresc.* in - spire, *p* And make her

## Great God of love

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S 1 *cresc.*  
- - same fire, and make her feel the

S 2  
fire, and make her feel the

A 1 *p*  
And make her feel, and make her feel the

A 2  
And make her feel the self - same

T 1 *p*  
feel, and make her feel the self - same

T 2 *p*  
and make her, make her feel the self - same

B 1 *p*  
feel the fire, and make her feel the self - same

B 2 *p*  
feel the self - same fire, the self - same

31

S 1 *f* *dim.*  
fire, that wastes her lov - er's heart

S 2 *p*  
fire, make her feel the

A 1 *p*  
fire, make her

A 2 *f* *dim.*  
fire, that wastes her lov - er's

T 1 *p*  
fire, that wastes her lov - er's heart a -

T 2 *p*  
fire, make her feel

B 1  
fire, that wastes her lov - er's

B 2  
fire,

Great God of love

35

S 1 a - way, that wastes her

S 2 fire, that wastes her lov - - - er's heart,

A 1 feel the fire, that

A 2 heart, that wastes her

T 1 way, and make her feel the self - same fire, that

T 2 the self - same fire, that

B 1 heart, and make her feel the self - same fire,

B 2 and make her feel the self - same fire, that

39

S 1 lov - - - er's heart a - way.

S 2 that wastes her lov - er's heart a - way.

A 1 wastes, that wastes her lov - er's heart a - way.

A 2 lov - er's heart a - way.

T 1 wastes her lov - er's heart a - way.

T 2 wastes her lov - er's heart a - way.

B 1 that wastes her lov - er's heart a - way.

B 2 wastes her lov - er's heart a - way.

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