

To Leonard and Dorothy Elmhirst on the occasion of their twenty-fifth Wedding Anniversary - 3rd April 1950

4. The Evening Primrose

(John Clare)

Music by
BENJAMIN BRITTEN
Op. 47, No. 4

Andante tranquillo

Soprano: When once the sun sinks in the west,
Alto: When once the sun sinks in the west,
Tenor: When once the sun sinks in the west,
Bass: When once the sun sinks in the west,

PIANO (rehearsal only): Andante tranquillo

The piano part consists of a series of sustained notes in the bass and middle registers, with dynamic markings pp, p, and ff.

And dew - drops pearl the eve - ning's breast; Al-most as pale as moon -
And dew - drops pearl the eve - ning's breast;
And dew - drops pearl the eve - ning's breast;
And dew - drops pearl the eve - ning's breast;

The piano part continues with sustained notes and dynamic markings p and ff.

beams are,..... as moon - beams are, The eve - ning prim-rose

p Or its com-pa - ion - a - ble star, The eve - ning prim-rose

The eve - ning prim-rose

The eve - ning prim-rose

opes a - new..... Its blos - soms...

opes a - new..... Its blos - soms...

opes a-new Its del-i-cate blos - soms to.... the dew

opes a - new..... Its blos - soms...

p

ppp

ppp

(p)

pp

And, her - mit-like, shun - ning the light, " Wastes.... its fair bloom up -

cresc.

pp

And, her - mit-like, shun - ning the light, Wastes.... its fair bloom up -

cresc.

pp

And, her - mit-like, shun - ning the light, Wastes... its fair bloom up -

cresc.

pp

And, her - mit-like, shun - ning the light, Wastes... its fair bloom up -

cresc.

pp

And, her - mit-like, shun - ning the light, Wastes... its fair bloom up -

cresc.

- on the night; Who, blind-fold to its fond ca -

- on the night; Who, blind-fold

- on the night; -

- on the night; -

- on the night; -

- res-ses, ca-res-ses.
 to its fond ca-res-ses, ca-res-ses.
 Knows not the beauty.... he..... pos-ses-ses.

 Thus it blooms on while night is by;.... When day..... looks out
 Thus it blooms on while night is by;.... When day..... looks out
 Thus it blooms on while night is by;.... When day..... looks out
 Thus it blooms on while night is by;.... When day..... looks out
 cresc.

mf *p* *dim.*

with o - - pen eye, 'Bashed at the gaze it

mf *p* *dim.*

with o - - pen eye, 'Bashed at the gaze it

mf *p* *dim.*

with o - - pen eye, 'Bashed at the gaze it

mf *p* *dim.*

with o - - pen eye, 'Bashed at the gaze it

pp

can - not shun, It faints and wi - thers and

can - not shun,.....

can - not shun,..... It faints and wi - thers

can - not shun,.....

is gone... It faints and wi - thers and

pp It faints and wi - thers and is gone...

and is gone... It faints and wi - thers

It faints and wi - thers and is gone,..

pp

is gone,..... and..... is gone.

— It faints and wi - thers and is..... gone.

and is gone. It faints and is gone.

It faints and wi - thers and..... is..... gone.