

A Prayer in Spring

from *A Boy's Will*

Robert Frost, 1915

Stuart P. O'Neil, 1989

Graceful and Delicate, with a sense of Wonder (♩ ca. 80)

pp

poco rubato throughout

p a tempo

Oh, give us plea-sure in the flow-ers to-day;

poco rit

rall

p a tempo

poco cresc

mp

mp

And give us not to think so far a-way As the un-cer-tain

A Prayer in Spring 2

poco rit

har - vest; keep us here All sim - ply in the spring - ing of the

poco rit

a tempo *poco cresc*

year. Oh, give us plea-sure in the or - chard white, Like no-thing

a tempo *poco cresc*

sub p poco rit *mp a tempo*

else by day, like ghosts by night; And make us hap - py in the hap - py bees, The

sub p poco rit *mp a tempo*

A Prayer in Spring 3

swarm — di-la-ting round the per-fect trees. And make us hap - py in the dart-ing

poco rit

poco rit

This system contains the first two staves of the musical score. The vocal line is on a treble clef staff, and the piano accompaniment is on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The music is in 3/4 time and features a key signature of one sharp (F#). The vocal line begins with a long note on 'di-la-ting' and continues with a melodic line. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines. The tempo marking 'poco rit' (poco ritardando) appears above the vocal staff and below the piano staff.

bird That sud-den-ly — a - bove the bees is heard, The

mf *poco agitato*

mf *poco agitato*

This system contains the third and fourth staves of the musical score. The vocal line continues with the lyrics 'bird That sud-den-ly — a - bove the bees is heard, The'. The piano accompaniment features a more active, rhythmic pattern. The tempo marking 'poco agitato' (poco agitato) is present, along with the dynamic marking 'mf' (mezzo-forte).

me - te - or that thrusts in with nee-dle bill, And off a blos-som in mid air stands

cresc *rall et pesante*

cresc *rall et pesante*

This system contains the fifth and sixth staves of the musical score. The vocal line concludes with the lyrics 'me - te - or that thrusts in with nee-dle bill, And off a blos-som in mid air stands'. The piano accompaniment features a final, expressive passage. The tempo marking 'rall et pesante' (rallentando e pesante) is present, along with the dynamic marking 'cresc' (crescendo).

A Prayer in Spring 4

slightly slower than a tempo
mp

still. For this is love and no - thing else is love, The which it

LH

mp *slightly slower than a tempo*

Res.
resume pedaling as before

poco rit **p** *molto rubato to end*

is re-served for God a-bove To sanc-ti - fy to what far ends He

poco rit **p** *molto rubato to end*

pp

will, But which it on - ly needs that we fulfil.

rall **pp** *molto rall*