

A Question

Words by

Richard Watson Gilder

Music by

C. B. Hawley

High Voice

6

Low Voice

The John Church Company

Cincinnati

New York

London

Because the rose must fade,
 Shall I not love the rose?
Because the summer shade
 Passes, when winter blows,
Shall I not rest me there,
In the cold air?

Because the sunset sky
 Makes music in my soul,
Only to fail and die;
 Shall I not take the whole
Of beauty, that it gives,
While yet it lives?

Richard Watson Gilder



High Voice
Original Key



Low Voice

A Question

RICHARD WATSON GILDER *

C. B. HAWLEY

Andante sostenuto

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cause the sum-mer shade Pass-es, when win-ter blows,

This system contains the first line of music. The vocal line is in a treble clef with a key signature of three flats and a 3/4 time signature. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves, a right-hand treble staff and a left-hand bass staff, both in the same key and time signature. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

pp Shall I not rest me there, *rit.* In the cold

This system contains the second line of music. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "Shall I not rest me there, In the cold". The piano accompaniment includes dynamic markings *pp* in the bass staff and *rit.* above the vocal line. The system concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

air?

a tempo

This system contains the third line of music. The vocal line begins with the word "air?". The piano accompaniment includes the marking *a tempo* in the bass staff. The system concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Be -

rit

Detailed description: This system contains the first two measures of the piece. The vocal line (top staff) has a whole rest in the first measure and a half note 'Be -' in the second. The piano accompaniment (middle and bottom staves) features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A 'rit' (ritardando) marking is placed above the piano part in the second measure.

cause the sun - set sky Makes mus - ic in my soul,

Detailed description: This system contains the next two measures. The vocal line (top staff) has the lyrics 'cause the sun - set sky Makes mus - ic in my soul,'. The piano accompaniment (middle and bottom staves) continues with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The system ends with a double bar line.

On - ly to fail and die, — On - ly to fail and

rit

Detailed description: This system contains the final two measures. The vocal line (top staff) has the lyrics 'On - ly to fail and die, — On - ly to fail and'. The piano accompaniment (middle and bottom staves) continues with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A 'rit' (ritardando) marking is placed above the piano part in the second measure. The system ends with a double bar line.

die; Shall I not take the whole Of beau - ty, that it

mf a tempo *rit*

gives, While yet it lives?

rit *dim.*

rit *pp*

ppp *rit* *ppp*