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# The Shepherdess : A Secular Song

William V Bradley  
*Composer*

Alice Meynell  
*Lyricist*

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THE SHEPHERDESS

Secular Song

The Poem by

ALICE MEYNELL

The Music by

WILLIAM V. BRADLEY

31 VESPER STREET

PORTLAND MAINE

Vc No.  
002503

BRADLEY

# THE SHEPHERDESS

## A Secular Song

Poem by  
Alice Meynell

Music by  
William V. Bradley

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of three systems of music. Each system includes a vocal line on a single staff and a piano accompaniment on two staves (treble and bass clef). The tempo is marked 'moderato' and the dynamics are 'mp' (mezzo-piano). The lyrics are: 'She walks—the lady of my de-light— A shep-herd-ess of sheep. Her flocks are thoughts. She keeps them'. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords in the right hand, with some melodic lines in the left hand.

*mp moderato*  
She walks—the

*moderato mp*  
lad-y of my de-light— A shep-herd-ess of

sheep. Her flocks are thoughts. She keeps them

white; She guards them from the steep, ——— She

The first system of music features a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower staff. The vocal line begins with a whole rest, followed by a series of notes: a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a half note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, both in a 4/4 time signature.

feeds them on the fra - grant height, And folds them

The second system continues the vocal line with notes: a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a half note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F4. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line.

*piu rit.*  
in for sleep. ——— She

*piu rit.* *a tempo* *piu rit.*

The third system concludes the vocal line with notes: a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a half note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The piano accompaniment includes performance markings: *piu rit.* above the first measure, *piu rit.* above the second measure, *a tempo* above the third measure, and *piu rit.* above the fourth measure.

*piu mosso*

roams ma - ter - nal hills and bright, Dark

*piu mosso*

val - leys safe and deep. In-

*piu mosso*

*meno mosso*

-to that ten - der breast at night The

*meno mosso*

chast - est stars may peep. She

*softly*

The first system of the musical score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 4/8 time signature. The lyrics are "chast - est stars may peep. She". The piano accompaniment is written in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The right hand features a melodic line with a long slur over the first four measures, and the left hand provides harmonic support with chords and single notes. The tempo marking "softly" is placed above the piano part.

*a tempo*

walks - the la - dy of my de - light - A

*a tempo*

The second system of the musical score continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in the same key signature and time signature, with lyrics "walks - the la - dy of my de - light - A". The piano accompaniment continues with a similar texture. The tempo marking "a tempo" appears above the piano part in two locations.

*piu rit.* *a tempo*

shep - herd - ess of sheep.

*piu rit.* *a tempo*

The third system of the musical score concludes the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line has lyrics "shep - herd - ess of sheep." and includes a fermata over the final note. The piano accompaniment features dynamic markings of "p" (piano) and "f" (forte). The tempo markings "piu rit." (ritardando) and "a tempo" are used to indicate changes in the piano part's speed.

*a tempo*

She holds her lit-tle thoughts in

*piu rit.*

*a tempo*

sight, Though gay they run and leap,

She is so cir-cum-spect and right; she

has her soul to keep. She

*piu rit.*

The first system of the musical score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written in a treble clef with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are "has her soul to keep. She". The piano accompaniment is written in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The tempo marking "piu rit." is placed above the vocal line.

Tempo I

walks — the la — dy of my de — light — A

*Tempo I*

The second system of the musical score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written in a treble clef with a key signature of three flats and a common time signature. The lyrics are "walks — the la — dy of my de — light — A". The piano accompaniment is written in a grand staff. The tempo marking "Tempo I" is placed above the vocal line and below the piano accompaniment.

*p rit. e dim. al fine*

shep — herd — ess of sheep.

*p rit. e dim. al fine*

The third system of the musical score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written in a treble clef with a key signature of three flats and a common time signature. The lyrics are "shep — herd — ess of sheep.". The piano accompaniment is written in a grand staff. The tempo marking "*p rit. e dim. al fine*" is placed above the vocal line and below the piano accompaniment.