

2. Ah, Love, but a Day!

Robert Browning's Songs of Op. 14

Amy Marcy Beach

Lento con molto espressione.

Voice

p

Ah, Love, but a

Piano

pp

The first system of the musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is for the voice, starting with a whole rest followed by a half note 'Ah', a quarter note 'Love,', and a triplet of eighth notes 'but a'. The lower staff is for the piano accompaniment, beginning with a piano (*pp*) dynamic. It features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand and a bass line with chords and moving lines in the left hand.

4

mf

day, And the world has changed! Ah,

Red. *

The second system of the musical score continues from the first. The voice part starts with a half note 'day,' followed by a quarter note 'And the world', a quarter note 'has', a quarter note 'changed!', and a quarter note 'Ah,'. The piano accompaniment continues with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The right hand has a melodic line with slurs, and the left hand has a bass line with chords and moving lines. There are markings for 'Red.' and a flower symbol at the end of the system.

7

Love, but a day, And the world has

pp

Red. * *Red.* *

The third system of the musical score continues from the second. The voice part starts with a half note 'Love,', followed by a quarter note 'but a day,', a quarter note 'And the world', and a quarter note 'has'. The piano accompaniment continues with a piano (*pp*) dynamic. The right hand has a melodic line with slurs, and the left hand has a bass line with chords and moving lines. There are markings for 'Red.' and a flower symbol at the end of the system.

10

cresc. e agitato

changed! The sun's a-way, And the bird es-tranged;

13

sostenuto

The wind has dropped, And the sky's de - ranged; Sum - mer,

16

dim.

pp

Sum - mer has stopped, rit. Sum - mer has

19

f

a tempo
stopped.

Ah, Love,

pp a tempo *cresc.* *f*

22

ritenuto molto but a day, And the world has *pp* *a tempo* changed!

24

25

Look in my *pp*

legatissimo

con Pedale

27

eyes! Wilt

thou change too?

Musical score for measures 28-29. The vocal line has lyrics "thou change too?". The piano accompaniment features triplet patterns in both hands.

dolcissimo
Look in my

Musical score for measures 30-31. The vocal line has lyrics "Look in my". The piano accompaniment features triplet patterns in both hands.

eyes! Wilt thou change

Musical score for measures 31-32. The vocal line has lyrics "eyes! Wilt thou change". The piano accompaniment features triplet patterns in both hands.

too? Should I

cresc.

Musical score for measures 33-34. The vocal line has lyrics "too? Should I". The piano accompaniment features triplet patterns in both hands. A "cresc." marking is present.

34

fear _____ sur - prise? Shall I find aught new In the

cresc. e agitato

36

old _____ and dear, In the

accel.

accel.

37

good and true, _____ With the chang - ing

f

f

Red. * *Red.* 3 * *

39

year? _____ Ah,

ff

Red. *

Love, _____ Look in my eyes, _____ Look in my

f sostenuto *dim.* *rit. e sempre*

f *dim.* *solennemente* *rit. e sempre*

Red. * *Red.* *

eyes, _____ Wilt thou change too? _____

dim. *pp* *molto rit.* *morendo*

dim. *pp* *molto rit.* *dolcissimo* *morendo*

Red. * *Red.* * *Red.* * *Red.* *

Red. *