

commissioned by Jubal's Lyre

# I Heard My Lover Knocking

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(1996)

♩ = 92c. (♩. = 62c.)

First system of the musical score. It features five staves: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Bass (B), and Piano (P). The Soprano and Alto parts are silent, indicated by a horizontal line. The Tenor and Bass parts have lyrics "ah" with a long horizontal line underneath. The piano accompaniment is in the right hand, with dynamics *mp* and *sturdily*. The score is in 6/8 time and consists of five measures. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

Second system of the musical score, starting at measure 6. It features five staves: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Bass (B), and Piano (P). The Soprano and Alto parts are silent. The Tenor and Bass parts have lyrics "ah" with a long horizontal line underneath. The piano accompaniment is in the right hand, with dynamics *mp*. The score is in 6/8 time and consists of five measures. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

♩ = 80c.

11 *mf*

S I was a - sleep but my heart was a - wake.

A I was a - sleep but my heart was a - wake.

T *fp* ah *fp* ah

B *fp* ah *fp* ah

14

S I heard my lo - ver knock - ing: *f*

A I heard my lo - ver knock - ing: *f*

T *f*

B *f*

16

S  
A  
T  
B

*mf*  
Let me in, my

*pp* *f* *pp* *f* *p* *mf*

20

S  
A  
T  
B

sis - ter, my dar - ling, my dove, my per - fect one! For my head is wet with dew, - my -

*f* *p* *mf* *f*

23  $\text{♩} = 72c.$

S

A

T  
curls with the mist of the night.

B

*mf*

6

*p*

25  $\text{♩} = 66c. (\text{♩} = 44c.)$

S *mp*  
My

A *mp*  
My

T *mp*  
Let me

B *mp*  
Let me

*mp*

29

S lo— ver drew back his hand from the— latch, and my heart beat

A lo - ver drew back his hand from the latch, and my heart beat

T in, my sis - - - ter,

B in, my sis - - - ter,

*p*

32

S *mf* wild - ly for him. — I — rose to — let my lo - ver

A *mf* wild - ly for him. — I rose to let my lo - ver

T let me in, my dove,

B let me in, my dove,

35

S in; my hands dripped with myrrh, my

A in; my hands dripped with myrrh, my

T let me in,

B let me in,

37

S *f* fin - gers flowed with myrrh up - on the han - dles of the

A *f* fin - gers flowed with myrrh up - on the han - dles of the

T *mf* let me

B *mf* let me

39

S *mf* bolt. I o - pened to my lo - ver, *mp* but

A *mf* bolt. I o - pened to my lo - ver, *mp* but

T *mp* in, let

B *mp* in, let

*p*

42

S he had slipped a - way and was gone. — I

A he had slipped a - way and was gone. I

T me in.

B me in.

*rall.*

44 *mf*

S looked for him, but could not find him, I

A looked for him but could not find him, I

T

B

*mf* *poco* *trb*

*slightly slower*

46 *p*

S called to him, but he did not answer me.

A called to him, but he did not answer me.

T

B

*p* *mf* *mf*

♩ = 92c. (♩. = 62c.)

49

S  
A  
T  
B

*mp* *pp* *mf*

54

S  
A  
T  
B

*pp* *mf* *f*

59

*poco mf*

ah

*poco mf* *ff*

ah

*mf* 3:2

My lo - ver is fair and ra - diant, \_\_\_\_\_

*mf* 3:2

My lo - ver is fair and ra - diant, \_\_\_\_\_

B

*p*

62

*f*

ah

*mf* *ff*

ah

ah

3:2

peer - less a - mong ten thou - sand. His head is the fi - nest

3:2

peer - less a - mong ten thou - sand. His head is the fi - nest

B

65

S  
ah

*mf* *ff* *mf*  
ah 3 3 ah 3

A  
gold; his locks are palm fronds, black as the ra - ven.

T  
gold; his locks are palm fronds, black as the ra - ven.

B

68

S  
ah ah

*ff* *f* *mf* *ff*  
ah 3 3 ah 3 5 ah

A  
His eyes are like doves be - side flow - ing brooks;

T  
His eyes are like doves be - side flow - ing brooks;

B

71

S  
ah \_\_\_\_\_

A  
milk white doves. His cheeks are like beds of

T  
milk white doves. His cheeks are like beds of

B

*mp* *ff* *f*

3 5

73

S  
ah \_\_\_\_\_ His bo - dy is a

A  
spi - ces, ex - ha - ling per - fumes. His bo - dy is a

T  
spi - ces, ex - ha - ling per - fumes.

B

*f* *f* *f*

5/4

*ff* heavily

76

S  
pi - llar of i - vo - ry. His legs are

A  
pi - llar of i - vo - ry. His legs are

T

B

78

S  
mar - ble co - lumns, set in sock - ets of

A  
mar - ble co - lumns, set in sock - ets of

T  
set in sock - ets of

B

80

S  
fine — gold. — *ff* His

A  
fine — gold. — *ff* His

T  
fine — gold. — *ff* His

B  
*ff* His

82

S  
bear - ing is like the

A  
bear - ing is like the

T  
bear - ing is like the

B  
bear - ing is like the

84

S trees of Le - ba - non,

A trees of Le - ba - non,

T trees of Le - ba - non,

B trees of Le - ba - non,

86

S lof - ty as ce - dars. His *mf*

A lof - ty as ce - dars. His *mf*

T lof - ty as ce - dars. His *mf*

B lof - ty as ce - dars.

*rit.* \_\_\_\_\_ *steady*

88

*mp*

S  
mouth is most— sweet; all of him is pure de - light.

*mp*

A  
mouth is most— sweet; all of him.

*mp* *p*

T  
mouth is most— sweet; mm

B

93

*tempo* (♩ = 92c.)

S

A

T

B

*mp*

*mp*

*pp*

99

S  
A  
T  
B

*p*

102

S  
A  
T  
B

*mf*

105

S  
A  
T  
B

*mf*

*slightly slower*

107

S

A

T

B

*mf*

How beau - ti - ful are your — san - dalled

*f*

*mp*

108

S

A

T

B

feet, O roy - al — daugh - ter. Your curved — thighs — are like jew - els.

*mf* *mp*

110

S

A

T

B

*f* *mp*

Your na - vel is a round gob - let, brim - full of wine.

*mf* *p*

112

S

A

T

B

*mp* *mf*

Your bel - ly is a heap of wheat, ringed with li - lies.

*mf*

Your bel - ly is a heap of wheat, ringed with li - lies.

*mp*

114

S

A

T  
Your breasts—are like two fawns the twins of a ga -

B  
Your breasts—are like two fawns the twins of a ga -

116

S

A

T  
zelle. Your neck is like a tower of i - vo - ry.

B  
zelle. Your neck is like a tower of i - vo - ry.

118

S

A

T

B

Here — is — your — fi - gure, state-ly as a palm tree.

Here — is — your — fi - gure, state-ly as a palm tree.

Here is your fi - gure, state-ly as a palm tree.

6 6 6 6 6 6

120

S

A

T

B

6 6 *ff*

126

S

A

T

B

*mp*

Let me climb the palm tree

*p*

128

S

A

T

B

*mp*

and take hold of its branches! May your

*poco mf*

*p*

*mp*

130

S

A

T

B

breasts be like clus - ters of

9

9

(b)

132

S

A

T

B

grapes on the vine, the fra - grance of your

*poco f*

*poco f*

*mf*

135

S

A

T *più f*  
breath like ap - ples, like ap - ples, and your

B *più f*  
breath like ap - ples, like ap - ples, and your

*mf*

6

138

S

A

T *f* *molto* *p*  
mouth like wine, your mouth like choice — wine.

B *f* *molto* *p*  
mouth like wine, your mouth like choice — wine.

*poco f* *p* *pp*

♩ = 80c.

144

*f*

S Set me as a seal up - on your heart, \_\_\_\_\_

*f*

A Set me as a seal up - on your heart, \_\_\_\_\_

*f*

T Set me as a seal up - on your heart, \_\_\_\_\_

*f*

B Set me as a seal up - on your heart, \_\_\_\_\_

150

S as a seal up - on your arm, \_\_\_\_\_ for love is as fierce as

A as a seal up - on your arm, \_\_\_\_\_ for love is as fierce as

T as a seal up - on your arm, \_\_\_\_\_ for love is as fierce as

B as a seal up - on your arm, \_\_\_\_\_ for love is as fierce as

154

S death, pa - ssion is as harsh as the grave; \_\_\_\_\_ its *sub. p*

A death, pa - ssion is as harsh as the grave; \_\_\_\_\_ its *sub. p*

T death, pa - ssion is as harsh as the grave; \_\_\_\_\_ its *sub. p*

B death, pa - ssion is as harsh as the grave; \_\_\_\_\_ its *sub. p*

*ff p*

157

S *poco* fla - shes are ra - ging fires, vio - lent flames. \_\_\_\_\_

A *poco* fla - shes are ra - ging fires, vio - lent flames. \_\_\_\_\_

T *poco* fla - shes are ra - ging fires, vio - lent flames. \_\_\_\_\_

B *poco* fla - shes are ra - ging fires, vio - lent flames. \_\_\_\_\_

*mp*

161

*ff* *mf sub.* *fp* *ff* *p*

S — Vast floods, vast floods can - not quench it, nor ri - vers

A — Vast floods, vast floods can - not quench it, nor ri - vers

T — Vast floods, vast floods can - not quench it, nor ri - vers

B — Vast floods, vast floods can - not quench it, nor ri - vers

*ff* *mf sub.* *fp* *ff* *p*

*ff* *f* *p*

165

S sweep, — nor ri - vers sweep, nor ri - vers sweep, — nor ri - vers

A sweep, — nor ri - vers sweep, nor ri - vers sweep, — nor ri - vers

T sweep, — nor ri - vers sweep, nor ri - vers sweep, — nor ri - vers

B sweep, — nor ri - vers sweep, nor ri - vers sweep, — nor ri - vers

*cresc.*

168

S  
sweep, \_\_\_\_\_ nor ri - vers sweep it a - way, *ff*

A  
sweep, \_\_\_\_\_ nor ri - vers sweep it a - way, *ff*

T  
sweep, \_\_\_\_\_ nor ri - vers sweep it a - way, *ff*

B  
sweep, \_\_\_\_\_ nor ri - vers sweep it a - way, *ff*

174

S  
sweep it a - way \_\_\_\_\_ *p* *pp*

A  
sweep it a - way \_\_\_\_\_ *p* *pp*

T  
sweep it a - way \_\_\_\_\_ *p* *pp*

B  
sweep it a - way \_\_\_\_\_ *p* *pp*