

# *Three Medieval Love Songs*

*for alternating Large and Small Choir*

*Rendered into modern English*

*by*

*Clifford Ford*

*Music by*

*Clifford Ford*

*written for the*

*Kanata Choral Society*

*and*

*Kevin James*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1. Love Letter</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. Sweet Rose of Virtue</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>3. Most Sovereign Lady</b>	<b>24</b>

CLIFFORD FORD PUBLICATIONS

**120 Walnut Court, Unit 15  
Ottawa, ON  
Canada K1R 7W2**

**(613) 230-3666  
1-888-465-5314**

**<http://cliffordfordpublications.ca>  
[ordering@cliffordfordpublications.ca](mailto:ordering@cliffordfordpublications.ca)**

# Three Medieval Love Songs

## 1. Love Letter

15 century Anonymous

Clifford Ford

$\text{♩} = 112$

*Full Choir*

*f*

Soprano  
Go! lit-tle bill,\* and do me re - com - mend

Alto  
Go! lit-tle bill,\* and do me re - com - mend

Tenor  
Go! lit-tle bill,\* and do me re - com - mend

Bass  
Go! lit-tle bill,\* and do me re - com - mend

Viola  
*f*

Piano  
(for rehearsal only)  
 $\text{♩} = 112$

\* bill = letter

9

Un - to my la - dy with good - ly coun - te - nance.

Un - to my la - dy with good - ly coun - te - nance.

Un - to my la - dy with good - ly coun - te - nance.

Un - to my la - dy with good - ly coun - te - nance.

*f*

*Small Choir*

16 *mp*

For, trust - y mes - sen - ger, I thee send, Pray her that

For, trust - y mes - sen - ger, I thee send, Pray her that

For, trust - y mes - sen - ger, I thee send, Pray her that

For, trust - y mes - sen - ger, I thee send, Pray her that

*mp*

*mf*

16 *mp*

24

she make pur - vey - ance: For my love,  
she make pur - vey - ance: For my love,  
she make pur - vey - ance: For my love,  
she make pur - vey - ance: For my love,

*f*

24

Small Choir

31

through her suf - - - f'rance, In her bo - som\_  
through her suf - - - f'rance, In her bo - som\_  
through her suf - - - f'rance, In her bo - som\_  
through her suf - - - f'rance, In her bo - som\_

*p*

31

39

de - sir - eth to rest, Since of all wo - men I

de - sir - eth to rest, Since of all wo - men I

de - sir - eth to rest, Since of all wo - men I

de - sir - eth to rest, Since of all wo - men I

*mf cresc.*

39

Full Choir

47

love her best. She is li - - -

love her best. She is li - - - ly of

love her best. She is li - - - ly of fra - grance, -

love her best. She is

*mf cresc.*

47

54 *f dim.*  
 ly of fra - grance, \_\_\_\_\_ Which on - ly may \_\_\_\_\_ do me plea -  
 fra - grance, \_\_\_\_\_ Which on - ly may \_\_\_\_\_ do me plea - - - -  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Which on - ly may \_\_\_\_\_ do me plea - sure; She do me  
*cresc.* *f dim.*  
 li - - - - ly of fra - grance, \_\_\_\_\_ Which on - ly may \_\_\_\_\_ do

The first system of music consists of four staves. The top three staves are vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass) with lyrics. The bottom staff is the piano accompaniment. Dynamics include *f* and *dim.*. A *cresc.* marking is present in the bass line.

61 *p mp*  
 - - - - sure; She is the rose of con - fi - - - - dence,  
 - - - - sure; She is the rose of con - fi - - - - dence,  
 plea - - - - sure; She is the rose of con - fi - - - - dence,  
 me plea - - - - sure; She is the rose of con - fi - - - - dence,  
*p mp*

*Small Choir*

The second system of music consists of five staves. The top four staves are vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass) with lyrics. The bottom staff is the piano accompaniment. Dynamics include *p* and *mp*. The section is titled "Small Choir".

69

Most com-fort-ing to my na-ture.

Most com-fort-ing to my na-ture.

Most com-fort-ing to my na-ture.

Most com-fort-ing to my na-ture.

*f*

77

*Full Choir* *Small Choir*

*f* *p*

Un-to that la-dy I me as-sure: I will

*f* *p*

Un-to that la-dy I me as-sure: I will

*f* *p*

Un-to that la-dy I me as-sure: I will

*f* *p*

Un-to that la-dy I me as-sure: I will

*p*



85

love her and ne - ver more, Go! lit -

love her and ne - ver more, Go! lit -

love her and ne - ver more, Go! lit -

love her and ne - ver more, Go! lit -

*mf cresc.* *f*

85

93

lit - tle bill, and say her so. She rest - eth in my re - mem - ber -

lit - tle bill, and say her so. She rest - eth in my re - mem - ber -

lit - tle bill, and say her so. She rest - eth in my re - mem - ber -

lit - tle bill, and say her so. She rest - eth in my re - mem - ber -

*mp cresc.* *f*

93

ance Day or night where - so I be. *dim.*

ance Day or night where - so I be. *dim.*

ance Day or night where - so I be. *dim.*

ance Day or night where - so I be. *dim.*

*f* *mf*

101 *dim.*

109 *mp* *cresc.* *f*  
 It is my spe - cial da - li - ance For to re - mem - ber her beaut - y. —

*mp* *cresc.* *f*  
 It is my spe - cial da - li - ance For to re - mem - ber her beaut - y. —

*mp* *cresc.* *f*  
 It is my spe - cial da - li - ance For to re - mem - ber her beaut - y. —

*mp* *cresc.* *f*  
 It is my spe - cial da - li - ance For to re - mem - ber her beaut - y. —

109 *mp* *cresc.* *f*

Small Choir

117 *p*

She is im - print-ed to such de - gree With gifts of na - - - ture

*p*

She is im - print-ed to such de - gree With gifts of na - - - ture

*p*

She is im - print-ed to such de - gree With gifts of na - - - ture

*p*

She is im - print-ed to such de - gree With gifts of na - - - ture

*mp*

117 *p*

Full Choir

125 *mp cresc.* *f*

in - ex - pli - ca - ble, And al - so grace in - com -

*mp cresc.* *f*

in - ex - pli - ca - ble, And al - so grace in - com -

*mp cresc.* *f*

in - ex - pli - ca - ble, And al - so grace in - com -

*mp cresc.* *f*

in - ex - pli - ca - ble, And al - so grace in - com -

*mf cresc.* *f*

125 *f*

133

pa - ra - ble. Her beaut - y whol - ly to des - crite

pa - ra - ble. Her beaut - y whol - ly to des - crite

pa - ra - ble. Her beaut - y whol - ly to des - crite

pa - ra - ble. Her beaut - y whol - ly to des - crite

133

141

Who is she that may suf-fice? For - sooth,

Who is she that may suf-fice? For - sooth,

Who is she that may suf-fice? For - sooth,

Who is she that may suf-fice? For - sooth,

Small Choir  
mp

mf

141

149

no clerk that is a - live, Saith she is on -

no clerk that is a - live, Saith she is on -

no clerk that is a - live, Saith she is on -

no clerk that is a - live, Saith she is on -

*mp*

149

157

*Full Choir*

*f*

ly with - out vice, Her fra - grance ex - ce - deth the fleur - de -

*f*

ly with - out vice, Her fra - grance ex - ce - deth the fleur - de -

*f*

ly with - out vice, Her fra - grance ex - ce - deth the fleur - de -

*f*

ly with - out vice, Her fra - grance ex - ce - deth the fleur - de -

*f*

157

Small Choir

165 *p*

lis; Be - fore all flow'rs\_\_\_ I have her

lis; Be - fore all flow'rs\_\_\_ I have her\_\_\_

lis; Be - fore all flow'rs\_\_\_ I have her\_\_\_

lis; Be - fore all flow'rs\_\_\_ I have her\_\_\_

*p*

165 *p*

173 *f*

chose, En - tire - ly in mine heart\_\_\_ so close.

chose, En - tire - ly in mine heart\_\_\_ so close.

chose, En - tire - ly in mine heart\_\_\_ so close.

chose, En - tire - ly in mine heart\_\_\_ so close.

*mf cresc.* *f*

173 *f*

Full Choir

181

Her I be - seech, since I do not feign, But

Her I be - seech, since I do not feign, But

Her I be - seech, since

181

188

feign, But on - ly put me in her grace, on - ly put me in her grace, put me in her grace, I do not feign, But on - ly put me in her grace,

But on - ly put me in her grace,

on - ly put me in her grace, put me in her grace,

I do not feign, But on - ly put me in her grace,

188

195 *mp*

That of me she will not dis - - - dain, Tak - ing re -

That of me she will not dis - - - dain, Tak - ing re -

That of me she will not dis - - - dain, Tak - ing re -

That of me she will not dis - - - dain, Tak - ing re -

195 *mp*

203 *Full Choir*

gard of old tres - pass. Un - to that la - dy I me

gard of old tres - pass. Un - to that la - dy I me

gard of old tres - pass. Un - to that la - dy I me

gard of old tres - pass. Un - to that la - dy I me

203 *f*



211

*p*

as - sure: I will love her\_\_\_ and ne - ver

*p*

as - sure: I will love her\_\_\_ and ne - ver

*p*

as - sure: I will love her\_\_\_ and ne - ver

*p*

as - sure: I will love her\_\_\_ and ne - ver

*p*

211

Full Choir

220

*f* *rit.*

more, Go! lit - lit - tle bill, and say her so.

*f* *rit.*

more, Go! lit - lit - tle bill, and say her so.

*f* *rit.*

more, Go! lit - lit - tle bill, and say her so.

*f* *rit.*

more, Go! lit - lit - tle bill, and say her so.

*mf cresc.* *f* *rit.*

220