



Nymphs are sporting

MADRIGAL FOR FOUR VOICES

Robert Lucas Pearsall
(1795-1856)

Nymphs are sporting

Robert L. Pearsall

Moderato

S Nymphs are sport - ing, Shep - herds court - ing,

A Nymphs are sport - ing, Shep - herds court - ing,

T Nymphs are sport - ing, Shep - herds court - ing, shep-herds court - ing,

B Nymphs are sport - ing, Shep - herds court - ing,

5
S Birds do sweet - - - - ly sing;

A Birds do sweet - - - - ly sing;

T Birds do sweet - - - - ly sing;

B Birds do sweet - ly sing;



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9

S Mirth and joy _____ and pleas - ure, Frol - ic with - out meas - ure,

A Mirth and joy and pleas - ure, Frol - ic with - out meas - ure,

T Mirth and joy and pleas - ure, Frol - ic with - out meas - ure,

B Mirth and joy and pleas - ure, Frol - ic with - out meas - ure,

13

S In the cheer - ful Spring; Flocks are bleat - ing,

A In _____ the cheer - ful Spring; Flocks are

T In the cheer - ful Spring; _____ Flocks are bleat -

B In the cheer - - - - - ful Spring; Flocks are

17

S Rocks re - peat - ing, Rocks re - peat - ing,

A bleat - ing, Rocks re - peat - - - - - ing, re -

T - - - - - ing, Rocks _____ re - peat - ing,

B bleat - ing, Rocks re - peat - ing, Ech - o

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21

S Ech - o___ back the sound; Mer - ry bells are ring - ing, *cresc.*

A peat - ing, Ech - o back, ech - o back the sound; Mer - ry bells are *cresc.*

T Ech - o back the sound; Mer - ry___ bells are ring - ing, While___ *cresc.*

B back the sound; Mer - ry bells are ring - ing, While the maid - ens *cresc.*

25

S While the maid - ens sing - ing Trip___ it, trip it

A ring - ing, While the maid - ens sing - ing Trip it

T ___ the___ maid - ens sing - ing Trip___ it, trip

B sing - ing Trip it, trip it, trip

29

S in___ a round, trip it, trip it___ in a round.

A in___ a round, trip it, trip it in a round.

T ___ it___ in a round, trip___ it___ in a round.

B ___ it in a round, trip it, trip it___ in a round.

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33 *mf*

S Mel - an - chol - y Is but fol - ly,

A *mf* Mel - an - chol - y Is but fol - ly,

T *mf* Mel - an - chol - y Is but fol - ly, is but fol - ly,

B *mf* Mel - an - chol - y Is but fol - ly,

37

S Nev - er sigh _____ and pine;

A Nev - er sigh _____ and pine;

T Nev - er sigh _____ and pine;

B Nev - er sigh _____ and pine; _____

41 *f*

S Fill your brim - ming glass - es, Toast your fa - v'rite lass - es,

A *f* Fill your brim - ming glass - es, Toast your fa - v'rite lass - es,

T *f* Fill your brim - ming glass - es, Toast your fa - v'rite lass - es,

B *f* Fill your brim - ming glass - es, Toast your fa - v'rite lass - es,

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45

S In the ros - y wine; *p* Come, be mer - ry,

A In the ros - y wine; *dim.* *p* Come, be

T In the ros - y wine; *dim.* *p* Come, be mer -

B In the ros - - - - y wine; *dim.* *p* Come, be

49

S Sing down - der - ry, Sing down - der - ry,

A mer - ry, Sing down - der - - - - ry, down -

T - - - - ry, Sing down - der - ry,

B mer - ry, Sing down - der - ry, Youth soon

53

S Youth soon flies a - way; *cresc.* Ban-ish care and sad - ness,

A der - ry, Youth soon flies, youth soon flies a - way; *cresc.* Ban-ish care and

T Youth flies a - way; *cresc.* Ban - ish care and sad - ness, Na -

B flies a - way; *cresc.* Ban-ish care and sad - ness, Na - ture all in

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57

S Na - ture all in glad - ness Mak - - - - eth, mak - eth

A sad - ness, Na - ture all in glad - ness Mak - eth

T - ture__ all in glad - ness Mak - eth, mak - - - -

B glad - ness Mak - eth, mak - eth, mak - - - -

61

S ho - - - ly - day, mak - eth, mak - eth__ ho - ly - day.

A ho - - - ly - day, mak - eth, mak - eth ho - ly - day.

T - - - eth__ ho - ly - day, mak - eth__ ho - ly - day.

B - - - eth ho - ly - day, mak - eth, mak - eth__ ho - ly - day.

Novello, Ewer and Co.
(1860-1885)

Robert Lucas Pearsall (1795-1856) was born at Clifton Hill, Bristol, into a wealthy Quaker family. His father was an army officer and amateur musician. He was privately educated and practiced as a barrister in Bristol. In 1825, after suffering a stroke, he took his family to live abroad. He sold the family estate in Willsbridge and, in 1842, bought the Schloss Wartensee, a ruined medieval keep near Rorschach in Switzerland and spent several years restoring it. He remained there until his death. Pearsall was an amateur composer and many of his compositions were not published until after his death. He is best remembered for his part-songs and madrigals but also wrote orchestral works, anthems, services, musical treatises, and edited a Catholic hymnal. He kept in touch with his home city of Bristol and wrote many pieces for the Bristol Madrigal Society. He also composed poetry, some of which he used for his madrigals, such as 'Why Do the Roses' and 'Why should the cuckoo's tuneful note'. The particle "de" often spelled in his name is a feature added after his death by his daughter Philippa.

Nymphs are sporting,
Shepherds courting,
Birds do sweetly sing;
Mirth and joy and pleasure,
Frolic without measure,
In the cheerful Spring;
Flocks are bleating,
Rocks repeating,
Echo back the sound;
Merry bells are ringing,
While the maidens singing
Trip it in a round.

Melancholy
Is but folly,
Never sigh and pine;
Fill your brimming glasses,
Toast your favorite lasses,
In the rosy wine;
Come, be merry,
Sing down-derry,
Youth soon flies away;
Banish care and sadness,
Nature all in gladness
Maketh holyday.

Thomas Oliphant (1799-1873)
based on words by Henry Carey (c.1687-1743)

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