

# The Virgin and the Nightingale

Text translated from the latin by Fleur Adcock

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## 1 Love's Agent

**Tempo libero**

Fl. *like a nightingale!* *mp*

Fl. *3*

**Tempo giusto**  $\text{♩} = \text{c} 84$

Fl. *5*

**Tempo giusto**  $\text{♩} = \text{c} 84$

S. *9*

S. *9* *mp*

The court - ing of a girl and boy who love and sigh and touch and

A. *9* *mp*

The court - ing of a girl and boy who love and sigh and touch and

T. *9* *8* *mp*

The court - ing of a girl and boy who love and sigh and touch and

T. *9* *8* *mp*

The court - ing of a girl and boy who love and sigh and touch and

B. *9* *mp*

The court - ing of a girl and boy who love and sigh and touch and

6

Fl.

S. in - flames the night - in - gale with joy

S. toy in - flames the night - in - gale with joy

A. toy in - flames the night - in - gale with joy

T. toy in - flames the night - in - gale with joy

B. toy

**Tempo libero**

8

Fl.

S. she has to bill and coo it

S. she has to bill and coo it

A. she has to bill and coo it

T. she has to bill and coo it

T. she has to bill and coo it

B. she has to bill and coo it

**Tempo libero**

10

Fl.

## 2 The Swan

10

31       $\text{♩} = 84$

S. Hear me, my chil - dren, tell - ing the la - men - ta - tion of the wing - ed swan who crossed the

S. Hear me, my chil - dren, tell - ing the la - men - ta - tion of the wing - ed swan who crossed the

A. Hear me, my chil - dren, tell - ing the la - men - ta - tion of the wing - ed swan who crossed the

T. 8 Hear me, my chil - dren, tell - ing the la - men - ta - tion of the wing - ed swan who crossed the

T. 8 Hear me, my chil - dren, tell - ing the la - men - ta - tion of the wing - ed swan who crossed the

B. Hear me, my chil - dren, tell - ing the la - men - ta - tion of the wing - ed swan who crossed the

36

S. o - cean. the

S. o - cean. the

A. o - cean. Bi - tter - ly he grieved for what he had a - ban - doned

T. 8 o - cean. Bi - tter - ly he grieved for what he had a - ban - doned

T. 8 o - cean. Bi - tter - ly he grieved for what he had a - ban - doned

B. o - cean. a -

39

S. flower - ing mead - ows of the so - lid land to make his vo - - yage

S. flower - ing mead - ows of the so - lid land to make his vo - - yage o - ver the

A. to make his vo - - yage o - ver the

T. -

T. -

B. ban - doned

41

S. o - ver the seas. This was his cry .

S. high seas This was his cry .

A. high seas This was his cry .

T. - This was his cry .

T. - This was his cry .

B. - This was his cry .

### 3 The Thrush

99

T. I sat in a mild or - chard, but had no plea - sure there,

T. I sat in a mild or - chard, but had no plea - sure there,

B. I sat in a mild or - chard, but had no plea - sure there,

100

T. clu - tching my jaw to mu - ffle pain I could hard - ly bear

T. clu - tching my jaw to mu - ffle pain I could hard - ly bear

B. clu - tching my jaw to mu - ffle pain I could hard - ly bear

101

T. Tooth - ache made my sens - es wince but su - dden - ly I heard the

T. Tooth - ache made my sens - es wince but su - dden - ly I heard the

B. Tooth - ache made my sens - es wince but su - dden - ly I heard the

102

Fl. freely  
mf

T. pre - tty thrush per - form - ing im - press - ions, cle - ver bird

T. pre - tty thrush per - form - ing im -press - ions, cle - ver bird

B. pre - tty thrush per - form - ing im -press - ions, cle - ver bird

## 4 The Roasted Swan

*J = c 72*  
122 *mp*

S. I used to live u - pon a lake, as fine a bird as God could make:  
*mp*

S. I used to live u - pon a lake, as fine a bird as God could make:

127 *mf*

S. I was a swan, and no mis - take. A - las poor me! Black as tin - der, and

S. I was a swan, and no mis - take. A - las poor me! Black as tin - der, and

A. *mf*  
and

T. *8*

T. *mf*  
A - las poor me! Black as tin - der, and

B. *mf*  
Black as tin - der, and

131

S. burnt to a cin - der!

S. burnt to a cin - der!

A. burnt to a cin - der!

T. *mp*  
In those days I was white as snow, fair - er than a - ny

T. *8*  
burnt to a cin - der!

B. *mp*  
burnt to a cin - der! In those days I was white as snow, fair - er than a - ny

# 5 The Anti-nightingale Song

37

**Tempo libero**

Fl. 175 *poco f*

1 Fl. 176 *independent tempo*

S. *mp independent tempo*  
da da da da da da (e sim.)

T. *independent tempo* *mp*

2

3 independent tempo

repeat over, ad lib, varying length of rest between repetitions.

repeat over, ad lib, varying length of rest between repetitions.

4

5 c. 20 secs to end of section

Fl. 179 *3*

S. c. 20 secs to end of section

S. *mp*

A. *mp*

T. *mp*

T. independent tempo *p ba ba ba ba*

B. *p ba ba ba ba*

6

7

**Tempo giusto ( $\downarrow = 84$ )**

181

Fl.

S.

S.

A.

T.

T.

B.

Pre - tty Spring has dressed the wood - lands

183

S.

T.

B.

with her flo - ral art - is - try, while the earth brings forth its her - bage

185

S.

T.

B.

in ti - ta - nic quan - ti - ty, and the lea - fy trees are load - ed hand - some ly with gree - ne - ry.