

She Moved through the Fair

PADRAIC COLUM

HERBERT HUGHES

Popular with street singers (and almost everybody else) in Ireland, this song was written by Padraic Colum and the melody adapted from an old Gaelic air by Herbert Hughes.

Adagio ad libitum

My — young love said to me — — — — — “My — moth — er won’t mind —

mp

The first system of the musical score is in D major and 3/4 time. It features a vocal line with a treble clef and a piano accompaniment with grand staff notation. The tempo is marked 'Adagio ad libitum' and the dynamics are 'mp'. The lyrics are: 'My — young love said to me — — — — — “My — moth — er won’t mind —'. The piano part includes a 'D' chord marking above the first measure and a '3' marking above the first triplet. The bass line consists of sustained chords.

— And my fa — ther won’t slight you for your lack of kind.” —

The second system continues the musical score. The vocal line begins with a dash and the lyrics: '— And my fa — ther won’t slight you for your lack of kind.” —'. The piano accompaniment continues with similar harmonic support.

— And she stepp’d a — way from me and this she did say, —

The third system concludes the musical score. The vocal line begins with a dash and the lyrics: '— And she stepp’d a — way from me and this she did say, —'. The piano accompaniment continues with similar harmonic support.



My young love said to me,
 “My mother won’t mind
 And my father won’t slight you
 for your lack of kind.”

And she stepp’d away from me
 and this she did say,
 “It will not be long, love,
 till our wedding day.”

She stepp’d away from me
 and went thro’ the fair,
 And fondly I watch’d her
 move here and move there.

And then she went homeward
 with one star awake,
 As the swan in the evening
 moves over the lake.

The people were saying
 no two were e’er wed
 But one had a sorrow
 that never was said.

And I smiled as she passed
 with her goods and her gear,
 And that was the last
 that I saw of my dear.

Last night she came to me,
 she came softly in,
 So softly she came
 that her feet made no din.

And she laid her hand on me
 and this she did say,
 “It will not be long, love,
 till our wedding day.”

