

# Whitman Songs

*for tenor, viola, and piano*

*texts adapted from Walt Whitman*

*written for Juan Pablo Contreras and  
Ellen Pavliska*

*by Georgi Dimitrov*

# WHITMAN SONGS

## I. Bridalnight.

Walt Whitman

Georgi Dimitrov

♩. = 63

Melancholic dancing

Tenor

Viola

Piano

One qui-ve-ring jel-ly of love

5

T.

Vla.

Pno.

lim-pid trans-pa-rent - Li-mit-less jets of love,

♩. = ♪  
♩. = 42, Seductive

8 *f* *p* 2 2 2

T. hot and e - nor mous Arms of love strong as att - rac - tion

Vla. *f* *p*

Pno. *f* *p*

8<sup>va</sup>

accel. . . . . ♩. = 63  
Tempo primo

11 *p*

T. reach as wide and large as air Drunken and crazy with love,

Vla. *f* *p* 3

Pno. *f* *p* 3

♩. = 60

Un poco meno mosso rit. . . . . A tempo

15

*f* *p*

falsetto

T. 8 swing in its plu - met - less sea Love - flesh swell - ing,

Vla.

Pno. *f* *p*

18

T. 8 ach - ing white - blood of love

Vla.

Pno. *15<sup>ma</sup>* *8<sup>va</sup>*

# II.

## Sun-Down Poem

♩ = 69

With fury

T. *f* You way-ward, vain, blabbed, blushed, re-sen-ted, was sha-llow, Am-bi-tious, *p*

Vla. *f* *p*

Pno. *staccatissimo* *ff interruptive*

poco rall. . . . ♩ = 69

A tempo

T. 4 *f* cu rious, *ff* fear-ful, lied, *mp* gree-dy, grudg-ing- Wolf, snake, hog, wan-ting the

Vla. *f* *ff* *mp* with thick, dark sound

Pno. *ff* *mp* with thick, dark sound *legatissimo*

poco rall. . . . A tempo

T. 8 *f* co-ve-tous wish- I too knew what it was to be these- *mf*

Vla. *f*

Pno. *ff*

# III. Twilight.

Melancholic dancing, ♩ = 60

*p*

T. The soft vo - lup - tu - ous shades, The sun just gone, light dis -

Vla. **III** slow glissando down, linger on in-between / "multiphonic" sounds and move through clear harmonics quickly  
*p cresc.* *gliss.*

Pno. observe octave clef! observe 15ma cleff  
*p no cresc.* *Ped.*

G resulting harmonics  
*gliss.*

**molto rit.** . . . . . **Meno mosso** ♩ = 48

5 T. pelled, (I too will soon be gone, dis - pelled), A *mf*

Vla. *gliss.* **IV** *gliss.*

Pno. *p no cresc.* *mf* *Ped.*

C resulting harmonics  
*gliss.*

8 T. haze - nir - va - na - rest and fa - de! *f* *fff*

Vla. *gliss.* *f* *fff* **no ritardando!** normale **crunch tone!**

Pno. *f* *fff* **no ritardando!** \*

# IV. Calamus 33.

Flowing ♩ = 72

T. *p*  
No la - bor - sa - ving ma - chine, Nor dis - co - very I've made, Nor

Vla. *p*

Pno. *p*

6 T. *f*  
will I leave much wealth:—

Vla. *p*

Pno. *f* *p subito*

10 T. *p* *rall.*  
On - ly these ca - rols, vi - bra - ting, I leave, for com - rades and lo - vers.

Vla. *p*

Pno. *legatissimo*

E *p*  
*una corda*

# Whitman Songs

## Bridalnight

One quivering jelly of love limpid transparent -  
Limitless jets of love, hot and enormous  
Arms of love strong as attraction reach as wide and large as air  
Drunken and crazy with love, swing in its plummetless sea  
Loveflesh swelling, aching whiteblood of love

## Sun-Down Poem

You wayward, vain, blabbed, blushed, resented, was shallow,  
Ambitious, curious, fearful, lied, greedy grudging, –  
Wolf, snake, hog, wanting the covetous wish –  
I too knew what it was to be these –

## Twilight

The soft voluptuous shades,  
The sun just gone, light dispelled  
(I too will soon be gone, dispelled),  
A haze – nirvana – rest and fade!

## Calamus 33

No labor-saving machine,  
Nor discovery I've made,  
Nor will I leave much wealth:  
Only these carols, vibrating, I leave,  
For comrades and lovers.