

## Sonnet XIV

from *Myra Ferronator: A Sonnet of Sonnets*

Christina Rossetti

*E la Sua Volontade è incerto poia.* (Dante)

*Tal era quasi posside, con altro clima.* (Petrarca)

Youth gone, and beauty gone if ever there  
Dwelt beauty in so poor a face as this;  
Youth gone and beauty, what remains of bliss?  
I will not bend fresh roses in my hair,  
To shame a cheek at best but little fair,—  
Leave youth his roses, who can bear a thorn,—  
I will not seek for blossoms anywhere,  
Except such common flowers as blow with com,  
Youth gone and beauty gone, what doth remain?  
The longing of a heart pent up forlorn,  
A silent heart whose silence loves and longs;  
The silence of a heart which sang its songs  
While youth and beauty made a summer noan,  
Silence of love that cannot sing again.

*Commissioned by the Cheltenham Music Festival 2019*

*First performed on 12 July 2019 at Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham, by Lucy Crane (soprano)  
and Anne Tibbels (piano), as part of the 75th Cheltenham Music Festival*

for Lily Green  
Youth Gone

Christina Rossetti

Jonathan Dove

Gently moving ♩ = 63

YOUTH GONE AND BEAUTY  
GONE IF  
EVEN THERE DWELT BEAUTY IS SO POOR  
A FACE AS  
THIS

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The tempo is marked 'Gently moving' with a quarter note equal to 63 beats per minute. The key signature has two flats (G minor). The score is divided into systems, with measure numbers 6, 11, and 15 indicated. The lyrics are: 'YOUTH GONE AND BEAUTY GONE IF EVEN THERE DWELT BEAUTY IS SO POOR A FACE AS THIS'. The piano part consists of a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand.

19 *freely*

Youth gone and bea - - - - -

24

- - - - - ty. what re -

29 *freely*

- - - - - main of

*poco f*

rit. .... 1

33

Miss?