

# FIVE SONGS

FROM

# THE CHINESE POETS

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English Text from "A Lute of Jade" and "A Feast of Lanterns."

BY

L. CRANMER-BYNG

SET TO MUSIC BY

GRANVILLE BANTOCK.

*Cover design by ALVIN LANGDON COBURN.*

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EACH SONG, PRICE 2/- NET

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## A DREAM OF SPRING.

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LAST night within my chamber's gloom some vague light breath of Spring  
Came wandering and whispering, and bade my soul take wing.

A hundred moonlit miles away the Chiang crept to sea;  
O keeper of my heart, I came by Chiang's ford to thee.

It lingered but a moment's space, that dream of Spring, and died;  
Yet as my head the pillows pressed, my soul had found thy side.

Oh! Chiang Nan's a hundred miles, yet in a moment's space  
I've flown away to Chiang Nan and touched a dreaming face.

---

TS'EN TS'AN.

*Circa* A.D. 750.

OF his life we know little, save that he was the intimate friend of the great poet Tu Fu, and came of a noble family. He was, moreover, Censor, under the Emperor Su Tsung (A.D. 756-762), and rose to be Governor of Chia-Chow. What remains of his verse mostly takes the form of quatrains, yet for originality of thought, wealth of imagery and style, they have seldom been excelled. . . .

(From "A Lute of Jade," by L. CRANMER-BYNG.)

# A DREAM OF SPRING.

From the Chinese poet, Ts'en Ts'an, circa A.D. 750.

Rendered into English by  
L. Cranmer-Byng.

Music by  
Granville Bantock.

Tranquillo sostenuto poco Allegretto rubato.

VOICE.

PIANO.

*p languendo espressivo*

*poco cresc.*

*ped. ad lib.*

*p lentamente espress.*

Last night — with-in my

*più p*

1

*più p*

cham-ber's gloom — some vague light breath of Spring Came wan-der-ing and

*sempre p*

*allargando*  
*mp* *p* *stringendo*  
*sost.*

whis-per-ing, and bade my soul take wing.

*dim.* *mp* *cresc.* *p* *cresc.*

The first system of the score features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a melodic phrase in a treble clef, with lyrics "whis-per-ing, and bade my soul take wing." The piano accompaniment consists of two staves, with the right hand playing chords and the left hand playing a more active line. Dynamic markings include *mp* (mezzo-piano), *p* (piano), and *stringendo* (increasing tempo). Performance instructions include *allargando* (rushing) and *sost.* (sostenuto). The piano part includes a *dim.* (diminuendo) marking and a *cresc.* (crescendo) marking.

2 *rall.* - - - *Tempo I<sup>o</sup>*

*f* *dim.* *pp*

*p espress.*

The second system of the score continues the piano accompaniment. It begins with a *rall.* (rallentando) instruction, followed by a *Tempo I<sup>o</sup>* (ritornello) instruction. The piano part features a *f* (forte) dynamic marking, followed by *dim.* (diminuendo) and *pp* (pianissimo). The vocal line is mostly silent, with a few notes in the first measure. The piano part includes a *p espress.* (piano espressivo) instruction.

3

*delicatissimo* *pp*

*sost.* *p espress.* *sost.*

The third system of the score continues the piano accompaniment. It begins with a *delicatissimo* (delicately) instruction, followed by a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic marking. The piano part includes a *sost.* (sostenuto) instruction, followed by a *p espress.* (piano espressivo) instruction, and another *sost.* instruction. The vocal line is mostly silent, with a few notes in the first measure.

## Sostenuto cantabile.

*mp* *espress.*

A hun-dred moon-lit miles a - way — the Chi - ang crept to

*p espress.*

## Poco allargando.

4 *mf con anima* *dim.*

sea; — O keep-er of my heart, —

*cresc.* *f* *dim.*

## animando

*p sost.*

I came by Chi-ang's ford — to thee.

*espress.* *p*

Molto lento. 5 *p a piacere*

It lingered

*ppp* *(lontano)* *mp* *espress.*

*ped.* \*

*ten.* *dolciss.*

but a moment's space, that dream of Spring, — and died;

*ppdim.*

6 *mp a piacere*

Yet as my

*ppp* *(lontano)* *mp* *espress.*

*ped.* \*

Passionato.

*cresc.* *f* *rall.* *dim.*

head the pil-lows pressed, my soul had found \_\_\_\_\_ thy

R.H. L.H. *f* R.H.

Più animando.

*p* 7

side. \_\_\_\_\_

*p* *dim.* *sost.*

*ritard. poco*

Allegretto grazioso.

*più p* *pp* *dolciss.*

*ped.* \* *ped.* \*

ten.  
ppp  
pp espress.

Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \*

8 Più sostenuto ma con anima.  
mp espress. sost.

Oh! Chi - ang Nan 's a hun - dred miles,

sost.  
mp  
mf espress.

Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \*

cresc.  
Yet in a mo - ment's space I've flown

p  
cresc.

Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \*

9

Allargando

*p molto espress.* *dim.*

a - way to Chi - - - ang Nan and touched a dream - ing,

*p sost.* *dim.*

*ped.* \* *ped.* \* *ped.* \*

Tempo I?

*p sost.*

dream - ing face.

*pp* (*lontando*)

*poco espress.*

rall. poco a poco

10

*dim.* *pp*

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