

Three Christina Rossetti Poems

Guy Stalaker

I. " A Rose Plant in Jericho "

II. " A Birthday "

III. " Still (Dost Thou Not Care?) "

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If this work is performed, recorded, etc. please let the composer know by email: guy.stalaker@gmail.com

Three Christina Rossetti Poems

I. A Rose Plant in Jericho

Christina Rossetti

J. Guy Stalnaker (b. 1958)

Soprano
Alto

At morn I plucked a rose and gave it Thee, A rose of joy and happy love and
I plucked the thorn and offer - ed it to Thee; And for my thorn Thou gavest love and
My thorn - y rose, my love and pain, to Thee I of - fer; and I set my heart in

Tenor
Bass

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peace, A rose with scarce a thorn: But in the chill-ness of a se-
cond morn My
peace, Not joy this mor-tal morn: If Thou hast giv'n much trea -
sure for a thorn, Wilt
peace, And rest u - pon my thorn: For ver - i - ly I think to-mor-row
morn Shall

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rose bush drooped, and all its gay in - crease Was but one thorn that wound - ed me.
thou not give me for my rose in - crease Of gladness, and all sweets to me?
bring me Par - a - dise, my gift's in - crease, Yea, give Thy ver - y Self to me

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II. A Birthday

Christina Rossetti

J. Guy Stalnaker (b. 1958)

♩ = 84 mp

Soprano I
My heart is like a sing - ing bird Whose nest is in a wa - ter'd shoot; My heart is like an *p*

Soprano II
My heart is like a sing - ing bird Whose nest is in a wa - ter'd shoot; My heart is like an *p*

Alto
My heart is like a sing - ing bird Whose nest is in a wa - ter'd shoot; My heart is like an *p*

Tenor
My heart is like a sing - ing bird Whose nest is in a wa - ter'd shoot; Nah nah nah *pp*

Bass I
My heart is like a sing - ing bird Whose nest is in a wa - ter'd shoot; Nah nah nah *pp*

Bass II
My heart is like a sing - ing bird Whose nest is in a wa - ter'd shoot; Nah nah nah *pp*

9 *mp* *mf*

ap - ple-tree Whose boughs are bent with thick-set fruit; My heart is like a rainbow shell That paddles in a

ap - ple-tree Whose boughs are bent with thick-set fruit; My heart is like a rainbow shell That paddles in a *mf*

ap - ple-tree Whose boughs are bent with thick-set fruit; My heart is like a rainbow shell That paddles in a *mf*

nah Whose boughs are bent with thick-set fruit; My heart is like a rainbow shell That paddles in a *mf*

nah Whose boughs are bent with thick-set fruit; My heart is like a rainbow shell That paddles in a *mf*

nah Whose boughs are bent with thick-set fruit; My heart is like a rainbow shell That paddles in a *mf*

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halcyon sea; My heart is glad - der than all these Be-cause my love is come, my love is come to

halcyon sea; My heart is glad - der than all these Be-cause my love is come, my love is come to

halcyon sea; My heart is glad - der than all these Be-cause my love is come, my love is come to

halcyon sea; Nah nah nah nah Be-cause my love is come, my love is come to

halcyon sea; Nah nah nah nah Be-cause my love is come, my love is come to

halcyon sea; Nah nah nah nah Be-cause my love is come, my love is come to

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me. Raise me a dais of silk and down; Hang it with vair and pur - ple dyes; Carve it in doves and

me. Raise me a dais of silk and down; Hang it with vair and pur - ple dyes; Carve it in doves and

me. Raise me a dais of silk and down; Hang it with vair and pur - ple dyes; Carve it in doves and

me. Raise me a dais of silk and down; Hang it with vair and pur - ple dyes; Nah nah nah

me. Raise me a dais of silk and down; Hang it with vair and pur - ple dyes; Nah nah nah

me. Raise me a dais of silk and down; Hang it with vair and pur - ple dyes; Nah nah nah

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pom - e-gra-nates, And peacocks with a hun-dred eyes; Work it in gold and silver grapes, In leaves and silver
 pom - e-gra-nates, And peacocks with a hun-dred eyes; Work it in gold and silver grapes, In leaves and silver
 pom - e-gra-nates, And peacocks with a hun-dred eyes; Work it in gold and silver grapes, In leaves and silver
 nah And peacocks with a hun-dred eyes; Work it in gold and silver grapes, In leaves and silver
 nah And peacocks with a hun-dred eyes; Work it in gold and silver grapes, In leaves and silver
 nah And peacocks with a hun-dred eyes; Work it in gold and silver grapes, In leaves and silver

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fleursdelys; Be-cause the birth - day of my life Is come, and love is come, my love is come to me.
 fleursdelys; Be-cause the birthday of my life Is come, and love is come, my love is come to me.
 fleursdelys; Be-cause the birthday of my life Is come, and love is come, my love is come to me.
 fleursdelys; Nah nah nah nah nah and love is come, my love is come to me.
 fleursdelys; Nah nah nah nah nah and love is come, my love is come to me.
 fleursdelys; Nah nah nah nah nah and love is come, my love is come to me.

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III. Still (Dost Thou Not Care?)

Christina Rossetti

J. Guy Stalnaker (b. 1958)

mf $\text{♩} = 86$ *p*

Soprano
Alto

I love thee I love thee here I love thee here or there, I will accept thy broken heart, lie still.

Tenor
Bass

mp *p* *mf* *Rit.* *a tempo*

I love and love not: Lord, it breaks my heart To love and not to love. It breaks my heart breaks my heart To

mf *f* *mf dim.* *mf*

love and not to love. Thou veiled within Thy glo - ry, glo - ry, veiled within Thy glo-ry, gone a-part In-

f *cresc.* *mp* *p*

to Thy shrine, which is above, which is a - bove, Dost Thou not love me, Lord, or care For this mine ill?

mf *dim.*

I love thee I love thee here I love thee here or there, I will accept thy broken heart, lie still, lie still, lie still.