

Dedicated to all my singer friends

# Satires of Circumstance

5 Thomas Hardy songs  
for voice and piano

Thomas Hardy

Jan Willem Nelleke

## I - A Thunderstorm in Town

With excitement (♩ = 68)

Voice

Piano

*f marcato e non legato*

senza ped.

3

*pp* (*Right hand stacc. e pp sempre*) *mf* *mp*

She wore a

7

*p*

'ter-ra-cot-ta' dress, And we stayed, be-cause of the pel-ting storm,

The musical score is written for voice and piano in 2/4 time. It begins with a tempo marking of 'With excitement (♩ = 68)'. The piano part starts with a dynamic of *f marcato e non legato* and 'senza ped.'. The score is divided into three systems. The first system shows the piano accompaniment for the first two measures. The second system starts at measure 3, with the voice line entering with the lyrics 'She wore a'. The piano accompaniment features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand, marked *mf*, and a dynamic of *pp* for the right hand. The third system starts at measure 7, with the voice line continuing the lyrics: ''ter-ra-cot-ta' dress, And we stayed, be-cause of the pel-ting storm,'. The piano accompaniment continues with a dynamic of *p* and includes triplet markings over the eighth notes.

## 2 - By her Aunt's Grave

Quasi recit. (♩ = 60)

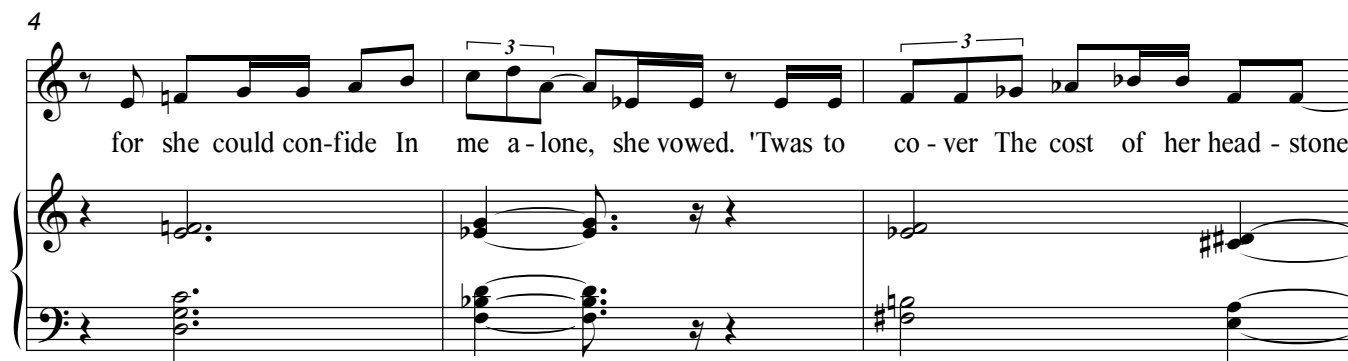
*p semplice*



'Six - pence a week,' says the girl to her lo-ver, 'Aunt used to bring me,

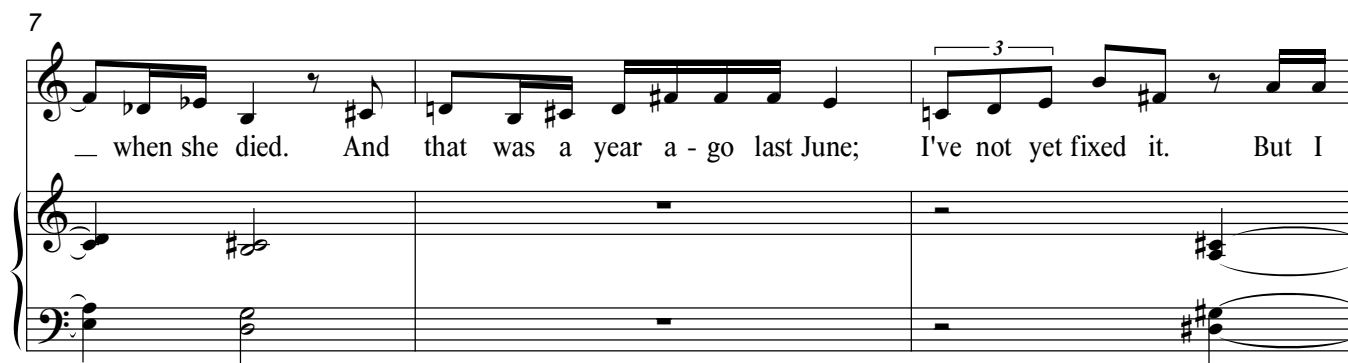
Quasi recit. (♩ = 60)

4



for she could con-fide In me a-lone, she vowed. 'Twas to co-ver The cost of her head - stone

7



- when she died. And that was a year a - go last June; I've not yet fixed it. But I

10

*troppo dolce*



must soon. 'And where is the mo-ney now, my dear?'

# 3 - Neutral Tones

Slow and static (♩ = 84)

*pp distant*

continuous left and right ped. unless otherwise indicated

6

*p cold*

We stood by a

*mf* *mp*

10

pond that win-ter day, And the

*mf* *mp*

14

sun was white, as though chid-den of God,

# 4 - The choirmaster's burial

♩ = 100 (with appropriate flexibility)

*p*

He of-ten would ask us That, when he died, Af-ter

♩ = 100 (with appropriate flexibility)

*p (organ-like)*

5

♩ = ♩ *sempre*

play-ing so ma-ny To their last rest, If out of us a-ny Should here a-bide, And

♩ = ♩ *sempre*

9

*cresc.*

it would not task us, We would with our lutes Play o-ver him By his grave-brim

*cresc.*

12

*f*

The psalm he liked best The one whose sense suits "Mount E-phra-im"

*mf*

# 5 - The man he killed

Misurato (♩ = 168)

Misurato (♩ = 168)

*p*

senza ped.

5 *mp legato sempre*

*mf*

Had

*p*

(senza pedale sempre)

9

he and I but met By some old an - cient inn,

15

*p*

We should have sat us down to wet Right ma - ny a