

# The Evening Primrose

Opus 47 no. 4

Words by John Clare (1793 - 1864)

Benjamin Britten (1913 - 1976)

*Andante tranquillo*

Sopraan1  
*pp*  
When once the sun sinks — in the west, And dew-drops pearl the

Sopraan2  
*pp*  
When once the sun sinks — in the west, And dew-drops pearl the

Alt1  
*pp*  
When once the sun sinks — in the west, And dew-drops pearl the

Alt2  
*pp*  
When once the sun sinks — in the west, And dew-drops pearl the

4

S1.  
*p* *pp*  
eve-ning's breast; Al-most as pale as moon - beams are, — as moon-beams are

S2.  
eve-ning's breast; —

A1.  
*p*  
eve-ning's breast; — Or its com-pan-ion - a - ble star,

A2.  
eve-ning's breast; —

8

S1. *pp* The eve-ning prim-rose opes a - new ——— *ppp* Its blos-soms ———

S2. *pp* The eve-ning prim-rose opes a - new *p* Its del-i-cate blos - soms to the dew

A1. *pp* The eve-ning prim-rose opes a - new ——— *ppp* Its blos-soms ———

A2. *pp* The eve-ning prim-rose opes a - new ——— *ppp* Its blos-soms ———

12

S1. *pp* And, her-mit-like, shun - ning the light, Wastes its fair bloom up - on the night; *cresc.*

S2. *pp* And, her-mit-like, shun - ning the light, Wastes its fair bloom up - on the night; *cresc.*

A1. *pp* And, her-mit-like, shun - ning the light, Wastes its fair bloom up - on the night; *cresc.*

A2. *pp* And, her-mit-like, shun - ning the light, Wastes its fair bloom up - on the night; *cresc.*

16

S1. *pp* Who, blind-fold to its fond ca - res-ses, *ppp* ca - res-ses

S2. *pp* Who, blind-fold to its fond ca-res-ses, *ppp* ca - res-ses

A1.

A2. *pp* Knows not the beau-ty — he

19

S1. *cresc.* Thus it blooms on while night is by; *f* When day looks out

S2. *cresc.* Thus it blooms on while night is by; *f* When day looks out

A1. *cresc.* Thus it blooms on while night is by; *f* When day looks out

A2. *pp* pos-ses-ses. *cresc.* Thus it blooms on while night is by; *f* When day looks out

23

S1. *mf* *p* *dim.*  
 with o - pen eye, 'Bashed at the gaze it can - not shun,

S2. *mf* *p* *dim.*  
 with o - pen eye, 'Bashed at the gaze it can - not shun, \_\_\_\_\_

A1. *mf* *p* *dim.*  
 with o - pen eye, 'Bashed at the gaze it can - not shun, \_\_\_\_\_

A2. *mf* *p* *dim.*  
 with o - pen eye, 'Bashed at the gaze it can - not shun, \_\_\_\_\_

26

S1. *pp*  
 It faints and wi - thers and is gone \_\_\_\_\_

S2. *pp*  
 It faints and wi - thers and is gone \_\_\_\_\_

A1. *pp*  
 It faints and wi - thers and is

A2. *pp*  
 It faints and wi - thers

28

S1. It faints and wi - thers and is gone, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ is gone.

S2. It faints and wi - thers and is gone, \_\_\_\_\_ It faints and is gone.

A1. is gone, \_\_\_\_\_ It faints and wi - thers and \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ gone

A2. and is gone, \_\_\_\_\_ It faints and wi - thers and is \_\_\_\_\_ gone.