



Love's
Question
and reply

John B. Grant
(1850-1912)

John Beveridge Grant (1850-1912) was born in Newburgh, Orange County, New York. He worked for the firm of Stewart Good and Co., manufacturers of dresses, NYC, and the Central National Bank of NYC. He was a naturalist and wrote *Our common birds and how to know them* (1891). He was an active amateur musician. He was organist and choir director at New Jerusalem Church, NYC, and at First Presbyterian Church, New Rochelle, NY. His compositions include a comic opera, several cantatas, anthems, part-songs, and many children's songs including a collection in collaboration with music educator Peter W. Dykema titled *Pussy willow: and other nature songs for little folk*.

I send a letter to my dear
Each morning by the lark,
And every night the nightingale
Brings answer ere the dark.
The question needs no other words,
And this, and this is the reply:
"I'll love thee, dearest, while I live,
And bless thee if I die."

I send a message by the rose,
It says, "Thou breathing grace,
Thy modest virtue, like this flower,
Spreads fragrance round thy place."
The lily brings the answer meet,
"O thou, O thou whom I adore,
My heart is spotless as these leaves,
And loves thee evermore."

Charles Mackay (1812-1889)

Love's question and reply

John B. Grant

Poco allegretto $\text{♩} = 88$

S *p* I send a let - ter to my dear Each morn - ing by the

A *p* I send a let - ter to my dear Each morn - ing by the

T *p* I send a let - ter to my dear Each morn - ing by the

B *p* I send a let - ter to my dear Each morn - ing by the

S ⁴ lark, And ev - 'ry night the night - in - gale *p* Brings an - swer ere the

A lark, And ev - 'ry night the night - in - gale *p* Brings an - swer ere the

T lark, And ev - 'ry night the night - in - gale *p* Brings an - swer ere the

B lark, And ev - 'ry night the night - in - gale *p* Brings an - swer ere the



Love's question and reply

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S dark. _____ The ques - tion needs no oth - er _____

A dark. _____ The ques - tion needs no oth - er _____ words, _____ no oth - er

T dark. _____ The ques - tion needs no oth - er

B dark. _____ The ques - tion needs no oth - er _____

12

S words, _____ And this, and this is the re - ply: _____ "I'll _____
rit. dim. *p* *a tempo*

A words, _____ And this, and this is the re - ply: _____ "I'll _____
rit. dim. *p* *a tempo*

T words, _____ And this, and this is the re - ply, this the re - ply: _____ "I'll _____
rit. dim. *p* *a tempo*

B words, _____ And this, and this is the re - ply: _____ "I'll _____
rit. dim. *p* *a tempo*

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S love thee, dear - est, while I live, _____ And bless _____ thee if I die, _____ I'll love thee,

A love thee, dear - est, while I live, _____ And bless _____ thee if I die, _____ I'll love thee,

T love thee, dear - est, while I live, _____ And bless _____ thee if I die, _____ I'll love thee,

B love thee, dear - est, while I live, _____ And bless _____ thee if I die, _____ I'll love thee,

Love's question and reply

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S dear - est, while I live, And bless thee if I die.”

A dear - est, while I live, And bless thee if I die.”

T dear - est, while I live, And bless thee if I die.”

B dear - est, while I live, And bless thee if I die.”

poco rit.

S *p a tempo* I send a mes - sage by the rose, It says, “Thou breath - ing

A *p a tempo* I send a mes - sage by the rose, It says, “Thou breath - ing

T *p a tempo* I send a mes - sage by the rose, It says, “Thou breath - ing

B *p a tempo* I send a mes - sage by the rose, It says, “Thou breath - ing

27

S grace, Thy mo - dest vir - tue, like this flower, Spreads

A grace, Thy mo - dest vir - tue, like this flower, Spreads

T grace, Thy mo - dest vir - tue, like this flower, Spreads

B grace, Thy mo - dest vir - tue, like this flower, Spreads

p

Love's question and reply

30

S fra - grance round thy place." _____ The li - - - ly

A fra - grance round thy place." _____ The li - ly brings

T fra - grance round thy place." _____ The li -

B fra - grance round thy place." _____ The

33

S brings the an - - - swer meet, "O

A the an - swer meet, the an - swer meet, "O

T ly brings the an - - - swer meet, "O

B li - ly brings the an - - - swer meet, "O

36

S thou, O thou whom I a - dore, _____ My heart is spot - less as these

A thou, O thou whom I a - dore, _____ My heart is spot - less as these

T thou, O thou whom I a - dore, whom I a - dore, My heart is spot - less as these

B thou, O thou whom I a - dore, _____ My heart is spot - less as these

rit. dim. *p a tempo*

Love's question and reply

40

S leaves, And loves thee ev - er - more, My heart is

A leaves, And loves thee ev - er - more, My heart is

T leaves, And loves thee ev - er - more, My heart is

B leaves, And loves thee ev - er - more, My heart is

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S spot - less as these leaves, And loves thee ev - er - more." *poco rit.*

A spot - less as these leaves, And loves thee ev - er - more." *poco rit.*

T spot - less as these leaves, And loves thee ev - er - more." *poco rit.*

B spot - less as these leaves, And loves thee ev - er - more." *poco rit.*

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