

Who shall win my lady fair?

A Four-Part Song

founded upon an ancient ditty in the library of the British Museum

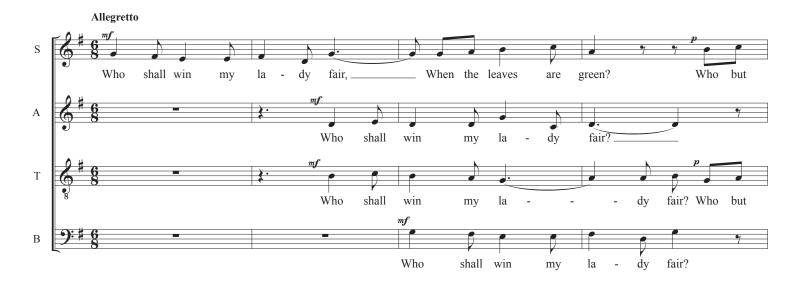
Robert Lucas Pearsall (1795-1856)

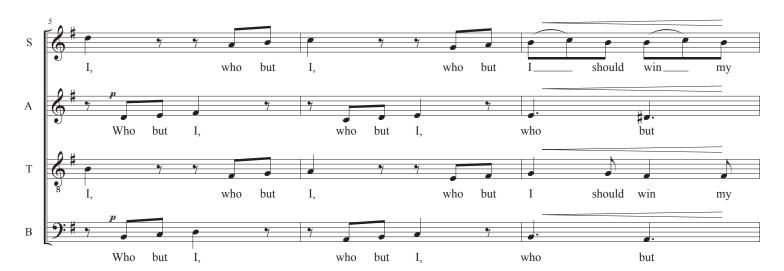
Robert Lucas Pearsall (1795-1856) was born at Clifton Hill, Bristol, into a wealthy Quaker family. His father was an army officer and amateur musician. He was privately educated and practiced as a barrister in Bristol. In 1825, after suffering a stroke, he took his family to live abroad. He sold the family estate in Willsbridge and, in 1842, bought the *Schloss Wartensee*, a ruined medieval keep near Rorschach in Switzerland and spent several years restoring it. He remained there until his death. Pearsall was an amateur composer and many of his compositions were not published until after his death. He is best remembered for his part-songs and madrigals but also wrote orchestral works, anthems, services, musical treatises, and edited a Catholic hymnal. He kept in touch with his home city of Bristol and wrote many pieces for the Bristol Madrigal Society. He also composed poetry, some of which he used for his madrigals, such as 'Why Do the Roses' and 'Why should the cuckoo's tuneful note'. The particle *de* often spelled in his name is a feature added after his death by his daughter Philippa.

Who shall win my lady fair?
When the leaves are green?
Who but I should win my lady fair,
When the leaves are green?
Say who, why so?
Not you, no, no.
The bravest man
That best love can
Shall win my lady fair.
Dandirly, dandirly, dandirly dan,
He shall marry her, he's the man.
He shall marry my lady,
When the leaves are green.

Who shall win my lady fair?

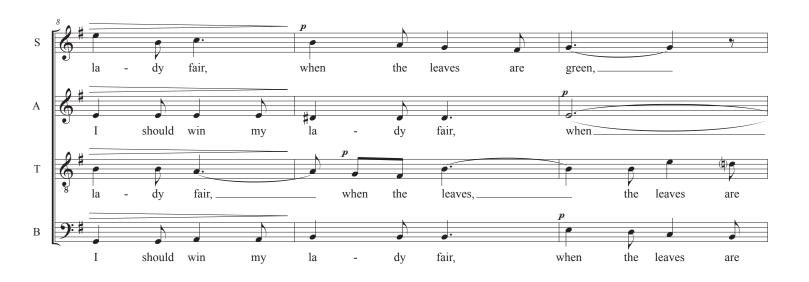
R. L. Pearsall

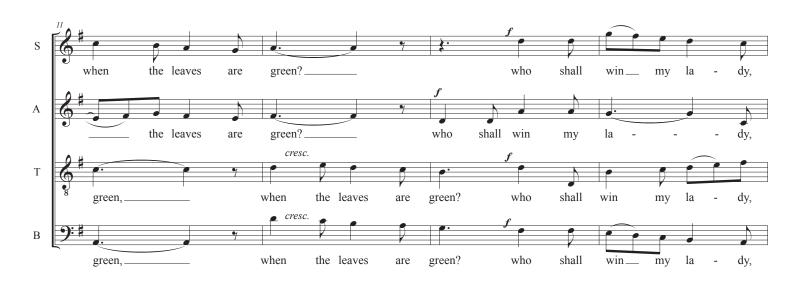


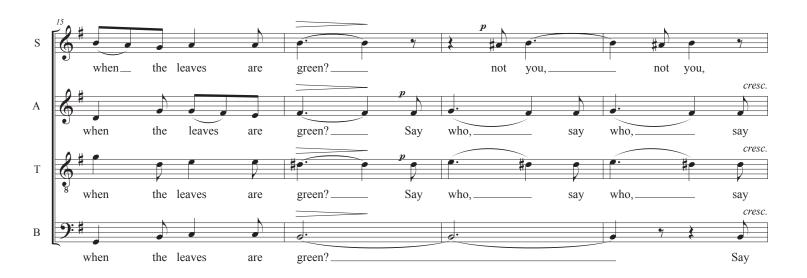


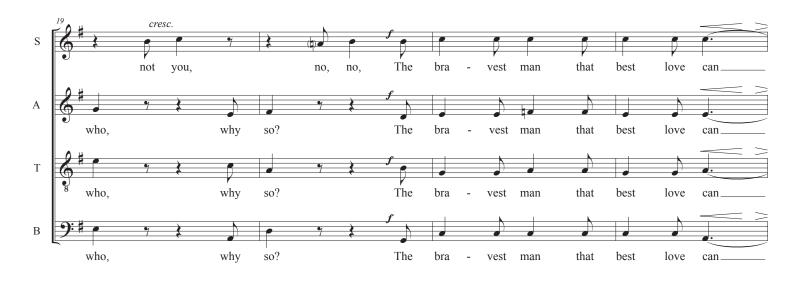


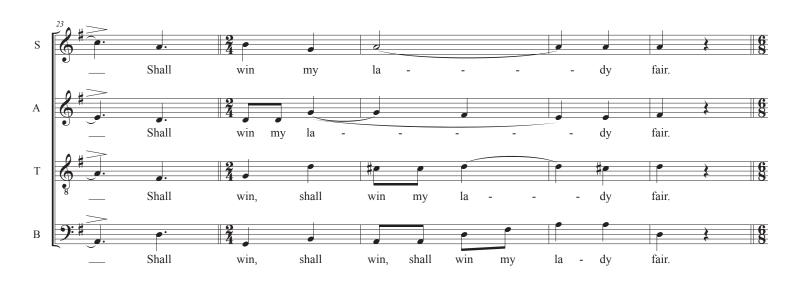
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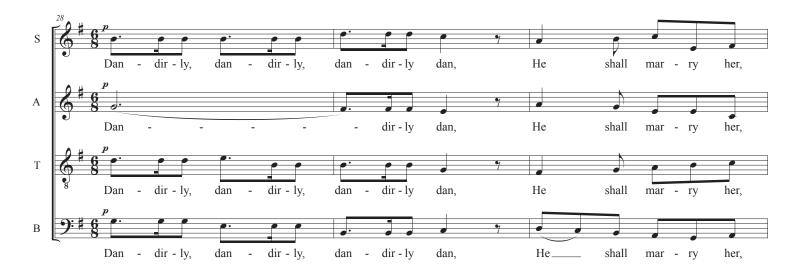


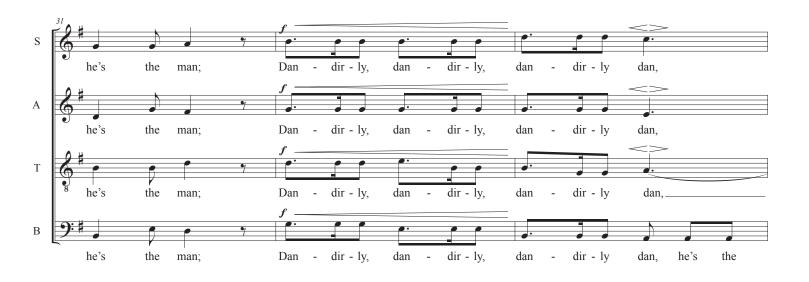


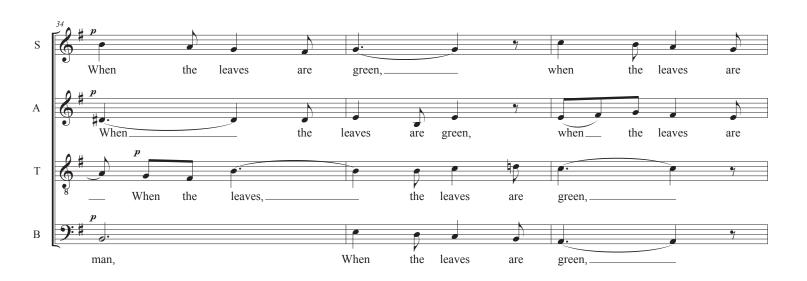


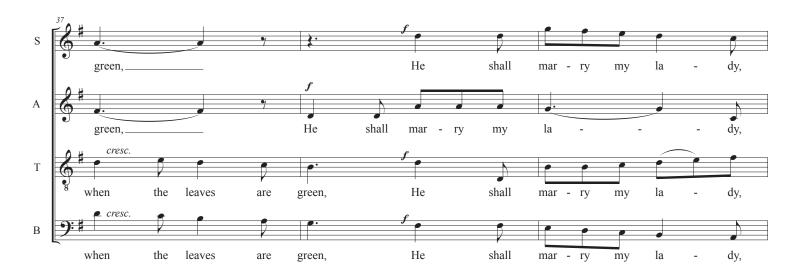


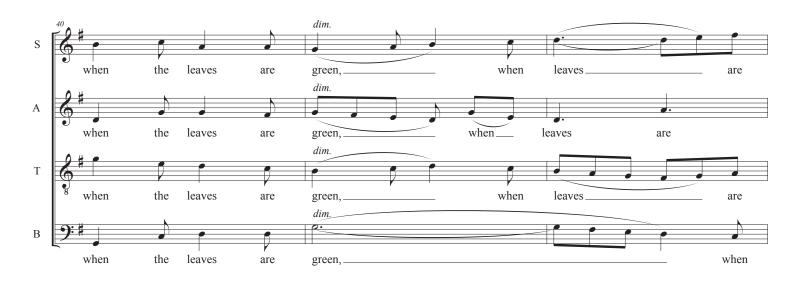


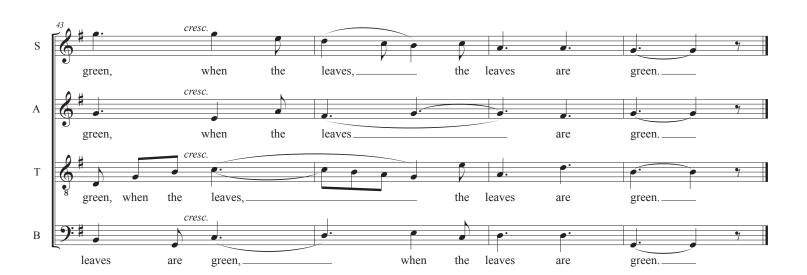












Novello, Ewer, and Co. (1860-1880)

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