Go, Lovely Rose

D. FARRELL SMITH

TBB Voices with Keyboard



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Ranges:









Performance Notes

Go, lovely rose!
Tell her that wastes her time and me
That now she knows,
When I resemble her to thee,
How sweet and fair she seems to be.

Tell her that's young,
And shuns to have her graces spied,
That hadst thou sprung
In deserts, where no men abide,
Thou must have uncommended died.

Small is the worth
Of beauty from the light retired;
Bid her come forth,
Suffer herself to be desired,
And not blush so to be admired.

Then die! that she
The common fate of all things rare
May read in thee;
How small a part of time they share
That are so wondrous sweet and fair!

A love poem, *Go lovely Rose*, was written by English poet Edmund Waller. Much of Waller's verse consisted of praise for Lady Dorothy Sidney whom he courted unsuccessfully in the 1630's; one of the most well known of these writings today is Go Lovely Rose. Waller's writing was praised for its "sweetness," and his style is marked by its smoothness and order.

I highly recommend that singers memorize and perform the poem in spoken dialogue to realize the full effect of the phrasing and to understand the meaning of the verses.

Exploitation of all dynamics and lower notes (in all voice parts) will yield a powerful presentation of this love song. Use sensitivity in your presentation, being careful to produce warm, tall, open vowels at all times.

—D. Farrell Smith

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Words by **EDMUND WALLER** (1606–1687)

Music by D. FARRELL SMITH





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