

BE THOU MY VISION

8th c. Irish
Tr. Mary Byrne, 1880–1931
Versified by Eleanor Hull, 1860–1935

Bernard Sexton

Moderato ♩ = 88

p semplice

The piano introduction consists of four measures in 3/4 time, marked Moderato with a tempo of 88. The music is in G major. The right hand features a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes and eighth notes, while the left hand provides a simple accompaniment of quarter notes.

Verse 1
Solo or Children

5 *p*

1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart, — be

The first line of the verse begins at measure 5. The vocal line starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern as the introduction.

9

all else but naught to me save that thou art. Be

The second line of the verse begins at measure 9. The vocal line continues with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment remains consistent with the previous section.

13

thou my best thought in the day and the night, both

17

wak - ing and sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.

rit. *a tempo*

rit. *a tempo*

21

4 Verse 2

24 S, A *mp* *poco cresc.*

2. Be thou my — wis - dom, be — thou my true — word, — be

T, B *mp* *poco cresc.*

mp *poco cresc.*

Detailed description: This system contains the first four measures of the verse. It features vocal staves for Soprano and Alto (S, A) and Tenor and Bass (T, B), and a grand staff for piano accompaniment. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano) and the dynamics increase from *mp* to *poco cresc.* over the measures. The lyrics are: "2. Be thou my — wis - dom, be — thou my true — word, — be".

28

thou ev - er with me and I — with thee, Lord. — Be

mp *poco cresc.*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 28-31. The vocal parts continue with the lyrics: "thou ev - er with me and I — with thee, Lord. — Be". The piano accompaniment continues with a steady rhythmic pattern. The dynamics remain *mp* to *poco cresc.*

32

thou my great Fa - ther and I thy true son, — be

mp *poco cresc.*

Detailed description: This system contains the final four measures of the verse (measures 32-35). The vocal parts conclude with the lyrics: "thou my great Fa - ther and I thy true son, — be". The piano accompaniment concludes with a final chord. The dynamics are *mp* to *poco cresc.*