

Piano-Vocal

April is in my Mistress' Face

2025 KMEA Sr. High School All-State Audition Selection

Thomas Morley

(1557 - 1602)

edition by James Gibbs

Allegro ($\text{♩} = 120\text{-}130$)

The musical score consists of five staves. The top four staves represent vocal parts: Soprano (treble clef), Alto (treble clef), Tenor (bass clef), and Bass (bass clef). The bottom staff represents the Piano (bass clef). The key signature is one flat, and the time signature is common time (indicated by '4'). The vocal parts sing a repeating phrase: "A - pril is in my mis-tress' face," followed by a measure of rest. The piano part provides harmonic support with chords. Measure numbers 5 and 8 are indicated above the staves.

Allegro ($\text{♩} = 120\text{-}130$)

The musical score continues with the same vocal and piano parts. The vocal parts sing the phrase "mis - tress' face," followed by "A - pril is in my mis-tress' face," and then "And Ju-ly in her eyes hath ____ place," with a measure of rest. The piano part continues its harmonic accompaniment. Measure numbers 6, 10, and 8 are indicated above the staves. The vocal parts repeat the phrase "A - pril is in my mis-tress' face, my mis-tress' face," followed by "And Ju - ly in her" and another measure of rest. The piano part concludes with a final harmonic progression.

April is in my Mistress' Face

2

Soprano (S) 12 And Ju-ly in her eyes, her eyes hath place. With - in her bo - som, with -

Alto (A) And Ju - ly in her eyes, her eyes hath place. With - in her bo - som, with -

Tenor (T) 8 Ju-ly in her eyes hath place, her eyes hath place. With - in her bo - som, with -

Bass (B) eyes hath place, her eyes hath place. With -

Piano (Pno.) 12 15

Soprano (S) 18 20 in her bo - som is Sep - tem - - - ber, But in her heart,

Alto (A) in her bo - som is Sep - tem - - - ber,

Tenor (T) 8 in her bo - som is Sep - tem - - - ber, But in her heart,

Bass (B) in her bo - som is Sep - tem - - - ber, But in her

Piano (Pno.) 18 20

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3

25

Soprano (S) vocal line:

but in her heart, her heart a cold De-cem - - - ber; But in her

Alto (A) vocal line:

But in her heart, her heart a cold De-cem - - ber; But in her heart, her

Tenor (T) vocal line:

⁸ — her heart, a cold De - cem - ber; But in her heart,

Bass (B) vocal line:

heart, but in her heart a cold De - cem - ber; —

Piano (Pno.) accompaniment:

25

30

32

Soprano (S) vocal line:

heart, but in her heart, her heart a cold De - cem - - - ber.

Alto (A) vocal line:

heart, but in her heart, her heart a cold De-cem - - ber.

Tenor (T) vocal line:

⁸ but in _____ her heart, a cold De - cem - ber.

Bass (B) vocal line:

but in her heart, but in her heart a cold De - cem - ber.

Piano (Pno.) accompaniment:

32

35

18



April is in my mistress' face

Composed by Thomas Morley



Text for this Selection

*April is in my mistress' face,
And July in her eyes hath place;
Within her bosom is September,
But in her heart a cold December.*

Biography and Historical Context

Thomas Morley, (born in 1557 or 1558, Norwich, England – died October 1602, London), was an English composer, organist, and music theorist. Along with his teacher, William Byrd, Thomas Morley is recognized as one of the first great English madrigal composers.

This selection was first published in 1594, the first selection of twenty-two original compositions in a collection titled *Madrigals in Four Voices*. These selections were highly influenced by the Italian madrigal tradition, and are characterized by “direct effectiveness, gentle harmonic warmth, springy rhythms, and clarity of texture.” (Encyclopedia Britannica)

Citation of Sources

Morley, Thomas. *April is in my mistress' face*. CPDL #42778. Edited by James Gibb. Choral Public Domain Library, 2017. Accessed 10 April 2024.
https://www.cpdl.org/wiki/images/5/55/April_is_in_my_mistress_face_Morley.pdf

Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Thomas Morley". *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 2024. Accessed 10 April 2024.
<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Thomas-Morley>

For All-State procedures, dates, and official audition information, visit
<http://kmea.org/divisions/choral/all-state-hs-chorus>