

# MERCILESS BEAUTY.

## Three Rondels.

Poems by  
CHAUCER.

Music by  
R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS.

### I

Andante con moto.

Voice. *pp*

Your ey-ën two will slay me

\*Violins I. II. *p*

Violoncello. *pp*

sud - den-ly: I may the beau-ty of them not sus-tene, So wound-eth it through -

*ten. ten.*

- out my her - të kene. And but your word will hel-en

*p*

\*This accompaniment may be played alternatively on the pianoforte.

has - ti - ly My her - tēs woun - dē, while that it is green, Your ey - en

two will slay me sud - den - ly; I may the beau - ty of them not sus - tene.

*(rubato)* Up - on my troth I say you

faith - ful - ly, That ye be of my life and death the

queen, For with my death the tru-thë shall be seen: —

*pp*  
Your ey - ën two will slay me sud - den-ly: I

may the beau-ty of them not sus-tene, So wound-eth it through - out my her-të

kene. —

## II

Lento moderato.

*senza misura*

So hath your beau-ty from your her-tè chased Pi-ty,

*senza misura*

*p*  
*ped.*

that me ne a-vail-eth not to plain: For Daun-ger halt your mer-cy in his chain.

*p*  
*(pizz.)*

a tempo

Guilt - less my death                      thus have ye me pur - chased;                      I say you sooth,

a tempo  
*pp* (pizz.)

*p*

(freely)

me need\_eth not to feign: \_\_\_\_\_                      So    hath your beau\_ty from your

*f* *colla voce*

arco

*ad.*                      \*                      *ad.*

her - tē chased Pi - ty, —                      that                      me ne a - vail - eth not to

\*

a tempo

plain. A - las! — that na - ture hath in you com - passed —

*p* a tempo (pizz.) (arco) *p* (pizz.)

— So great beau - ty, that no man may at - tain To

(arco)

Largamente. a tempo

mer - cy, though he ster - ve for the pain! —

colla voce a tempo

Freely.

*f*

So hath your beau - ty from your her - të chased Pi - ty, — that

*f colla voce*

*p*

a tempo

me ne a - vail - eth not to plain; — For Daun - ger

*p* a tempo (pizz.)

halt your mer - cy in his chain. —

*pp*

*pp*

## III

*Allegro.* *leggiere*

Since I from Love es - cap-èd am so

*p leggiere*

fat, — I nev - er think to ben in his pri - son lean;

(pizz.) (arco)

Since I am free, I count him not, I count him not, I

*f*

count him not — a bean.

He may an - swer, and say - ë this or that; I do no

force, I speak right — as I mean: — Since I from Love es -

cap - ëd am so fat, — I nev - er think to ben in his

pri - son lean. — Love hath my name y -

(arco)

strike out of his sclat, And he is strike out of my book-ës clean For

Largamente. *ad lib.* *p* *pp a tempo*

ev - er - more; there is none oth - er mean. Since I from

*f colla voce* *p* *pp a tempo*

*Red.* \*

love es - cap - ëd am so fat, — I nev - er think to

*mf*

ben in his pri - son lean, Since I am

L.H. *cresc.*

*f*

free I count him not, I

count him not, I count him not a bean.

*p*

*poco rall.*

*p*