

VOICES FROM THINGS GROWING IN A CHURCHYARD

These flowers are I, poor Fanny Hurd,  
Sir or Madam,  
A little girl here sepultured.  
Once I flit-fluttered like a bird  
Above the grass, as now I wave  
In daisy shapes above my grave,  
All day cheerily,  
All night eerily!

I am one Bachelor Bowring, "Gent.,"  
Sir or Madam;  
In shingled oak my bones were pent;  
Hence more than a hundred years I spent  
In my feat of change from a coffin-thrall  
To a dancer in green as leaves on a wall,  
All day cheerily,  
All night eerily!

I, these berries of juice and gloss,  
Sir or Madam,  
Am clean forgotten as Thomas Voss;  
Thin-urned, I have burrowed away from the moss  
That covers my sod, and have entered this yew,  
And turned to clusters ruddy of view,  
All day cheerily,  
All night eerily!

The Lady Gertrude, proud, high-bred,  
Sir or Madam,  
Am I - this laurel that shades your head;  
Into its veins I have stilly sped,  
And made them of me; and my leaves now shine,  
As did my satins superfine,  
All day cheerily,  
All night eerily!

I, who as innocent withwind climb,  
Sir or Madam,  
Am one Eve Greensleeves, in olden time  
Kissed by men from many a clime,  
Beneath sun, stars, in blaze, in breeze,  
As now by glowworms and by bees,  
All day cheerily,  
All night eerily!

I'm old Squire Audley Grey, who grew  
Sir or Madam,  
Aweary of life, and in scorn withdrew;  
Till anon I clambered up anew  
As ivy-green, when my ache was stayed,  
And in that attire I have longtime gayed  
All day cheerily,  
All night eerily!

And so these maskers breathe to each  
Sir or Madam  
Who lingers there, and their lively speech  
Affords an interpreter much to teach,  
As their murmurous accents seem to come  
Thence hitheraround in a radiant hum,  
All day cheerily,  
All night eerily!

THOMAS HARDY

# Voices from Things

## Growing in a Churchyard

poem by Thomas Hardy for six solo voices and piano

music by Trevor Hold (1974)

### PRELUDE

The musical score for the prelude is written for piano and consists of four systems of staves. The first system begins with a tempo marking of *Rubato*:  $\text{♩} = c66-76$ . The piano part starts with a *p* dynamic and includes markings for *ten.* ( $\text{♩} = 66$ ) and *dolce*. The second system features a *pp (echo)* marking and a *ten.* marking. The third system includes *molto dolce*, *poco accel.*, *cresc.*, *riten.*, and  $\text{♩} = c66$  markings. The fourth system includes *mp*, *p*, *mf sub.*, and *ten.* markings. Pedal points are indicated by *Ped.* markings throughout the score. A large blue watermark reading "Preview File Only" is oriented vertically across the middle of the page.

VERSE 1 : FANNY HURD

Soprano *mp* *semplice*  
 These flowers are I, poor Fanny Hurd, Sir or  
*Slow* : ♩ = c 88

piano *poco cresc.* *mf*  
 \* Ped \*

Madam, A little girl here sepul-tured.

*poco cresc.* *mf*  
 Ped \* Ped \*

*mf* *scherzando*  
 Once I flit-fluttered like a bird above the grass, as now I wave in  
*Much quicker* : ♩ = c 132

*mf*  
 Ped. →

*mf*  
*rall.* *Tempo I* : ♩ = c 88

*mf*  
 (4)  
 Ped. \*

INTERLUDE I

*p* All night eer i-ly!

*mf sub.*

*mf sub.*

*mp poco cresc.*

*Quicker: ♩ = c 120*

*mf sub*

*mp poco cresc.*

*Red \**

*Ritenuito* *a tempo* *Ritenuito* *a tempo e accel.*

*lunga*

*sffz mp* *mp poco cresc.* *sffz mp* *mp cresc.*

*Presto: precipitato*

*f*

VERSE 2: BACHELOR BOWING.

bass

*poco f*

I am one Bachelor

*Tempo I rall. e. dim.* *A Tempo: ♩ = c 120*

*f* *mf* *ff* *mf sub.* *pp* *p*

*3*

*3*

mp *riten.* mp

Saw — ring, "Gent," — Sir or Madam;

*poco cresc.* mp

*poco f* *a tempo* *ritmico* (2+3+3)

In shingled oak my bones were pent; hence — more than a

*f* *mf cresc.* *f* *mf*

*loco*

(3+2+2) (3+2+3) (3+2+2)

hun — dred years I spent — — — in my feat of change from a

(3+2+3+3) *dim.*

cof — fin — thrall — — — to a dan — cer in green as leaves — — — on a

*rall. — — — molto Ritenuito (♩ = c 88)* *e rall.*

*poco f*



mp  
wall, — All day cheer — i-ly, — All night  
(♩ = c 88)

lunga INTERLUDE II  
cer — i-ly!  
(deliberato: tenuto) Alla marcia: ♩ = c 108

pro.  
pesante  
tenuto

poco cresc.  
poco f  
Ped.