

## “TO A NORDIC PRINCESS”

### *BRIDAL SONG*

#### PROGRAM-NOTE

Now and then in Scandinavia may be met a Nordic type of womanhood, half-boyish yet wholly womanly, whose soft flawless loveliness is like that of a fairy-tale princess; whose wondrous radiance makes real for us the sun-goddesses of the nature-myths; whose broad shoulders, amazon limbs, fearless glance, and freedom of deed and bearing recall the viking chieftainesses of the sagas; whose cornfield hair and cornflower eyes awaken thoughts of the silent fruitfulness of the soil and of the lowly lives of land-tillers; whose graceful ease in riming, painting, singing, dancing, swimming, is the all-life-embracing giftedness of an unspoiled nature-race.

Such an uncrowned princess may be found in castle or cottage, in town or country-side, amongst high-born or low-born alike; for hers is bed-rock aristocraticness of race, not mere top-layer aristocraticness of class, culture, and breeding. To meet her is to have all one's boyhood fairy-dreams and hero-dreams come true.

Such a one is my sweet wife-to-be—Ella Viola Ström—and to her this bridal song is offered as a wedding-gift and fondly honor-tokened in pride of race and personal love.

PERCY ALDRIDGE GRAINGER,  
Coatesville, Pa., U. S. A., Jan. 16, 1928.

Loving wedding - gift to Ella Viola Ström, my sweet wife-to-be

# “TO A NORDIC PRINCESS”

## Bridal Song

Tone-wrought (composed), Jan. 21, 1927 - Feb. 25, 1928.

for

Dished-up for piano, 2 hands, Nov. 1928.

Orchestra (Pipe Organ at will)

by

PERCY ALDRIDGE GRAINGER

Dished-up for Piano, 2 hands

This piano setting is 99 bars shorter than the full form of the work for orchestra. It begins at the hundredth bar of the orchestral version.

Fairly slowly flowingly ♩ = 54 - 58

*mp*  
*p*

S.P. (sustaining pedal)

EASIER

louden bit by bit

l.h.

louden bit by bit

(lower voice of r. h. to the fore)

The first system of the musical score consists of two systems of staves. The top system has a treble clef staff with a complex melodic line featuring many beamed notes and a bass clef staff with a more rhythmic accompaniment. The bottom system continues the same parts. There are several dynamic markings, including a forte 'f' at the beginning of the first system. A 'l.h.' marking is present in the second system, indicating the left hand. The music is written in a key with one flat and a 4/4 time signature.

The second system of the musical score continues the piano and left hand parts. It features similar complex melodic lines in the treble clef and rhythmic accompaniment in the bass clef. A dynamic marking of 'f' is present at the start. A 'l.h.' marking is also present. The system concludes with a 'S.P.' (Sotto Piano) marking, indicating a change in dynamics.

Slightly faster ♩ = 66

The third system of the musical score features a treble clef staff with a melodic line and a bass clef staff with accompaniment. A dynamic marking of 'p' (piano) is present, followed by the instruction 'louden bit by bit' (louden bit by bit). The system concludes with two 'S.P.' (Sotto Piano) markings. The tempo marking 'Slightly faster ♩ = 66' is positioned above the system.

Quicken somewhat

slow off lots

This system contains two measures of music. The first measure is marked "Quicken somewhat" and the second "slow off lots". The piano part features a melodic line with a crescendo leading to a forte dynamic and a "louden lots" instruction. The bass part provides harmonic support. Below the staves is a rhythmic diagram with "S.P." markings and asterisks.

Slow ♩ = 100

This system contains two measures of music. The tempo is marked "Slow ♩ = 100". The piano part includes a forte dynamic marking "f" and "r.h." (right hand) markings. The bass part features a melodic line with a crescendo. Below the staves is a rhythmic diagram with "S.P." markings and an asterisk.

Still slower

Less slow

Slow off

This system contains two measures of music. The tempo is marked "Still slower". The piano part starts with a mezzo-piano dynamic "mp" and ends with a piano dynamic "p". The bass part features a melodic line with a crescendo. Below the staves is a rhythmic diagram with "S.P." markings and an asterisk.

Flowingly (somewhat faster than 1st speed) ♩ = 72

This system contains two measures of music. The tempo is marked "Flowingly (somewhat faster than 1st speed) ♩ = 72". The piano part starts with a piano dynamic "p gently" and features a crescendo. The bass part features a melodic line with a crescendo. Below the staves is a rhythmic diagram with "S.P." markings and asterisks.

Slightly more flowingly

Lingeringly

In time

l.h.

louden

*mf*

*f*

S.P.....\*

Slacken lots

Slow ♩ = 84

soften bit by bit

*p*

Quicken

l.h.

r.h.

*mf*

*pp*

*mp*

*pp*

louden slightly

Very flowingly ♩ = 88

*mp*

louden lots bit by bit

*mf*

S.P.....

Quicken slightly

ff  
louden lots  
\*S.P.\*

Slow off slightly

fff  
S.P.\*

Slow off more and more

fff  
heavy

Slow off lots

soften  
S.P.\*

96 Fairly slowly flowingly (1st speed)  $\text{♩} = 54$  Slow off slightly

Top voice to the fore

*mp*  
gently, waywardly

Quicken Top voice well to the fore

Slow off slightly

S.P. .... \*

Flowingly  $\text{♩} = 72$

Slacken very slightly

*mp*  
*p*  
*p*  
*mp*

In time [linger] Quicken slightly

*mf*  
*p* suddenly  
louden lots

S.P. .... \*

S.P. .... \*

Rather fast ♩ = 100

Musical score for the first system, marked "Rather fast" with a tempo of ♩ = 100. The score is in 4/4 time and consists of two staves. The upper staff features a melodic line with triplets and slurs, starting with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The lower staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and triplets. Below the staves, there are two "S.P." (Sostenuto Pedal) markings with dotted lines and asterisks, indicating when to engage and disengage the pedal.

Slightly slower

Musical score for the second system, marked "Slightly slower". The score continues from the first system. The upper staff has a melodic line with slurs and a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) at the beginning and *mp* (mezzo-piano) later. The lower staff has a harmonic accompaniment with a dynamic marking of *mp* at the end. The tempo is indicated as "Slightly slower".

Slightly slower

Musical score for the third system, also marked "Slightly slower". The upper staff continues the melodic line with slurs and a dynamic marking of *p*. The lower staff continues the harmonic accompaniment. The tempo remains "Slightly slower".

Flowingly ♩ = 69

Top notes very glassy, well to the fore

Musical score for the fourth system, marked "Flowingly" with a tempo of ♩ = 69. The score is in 4/4 time and consists of two staves. The upper staff features a melodic line with slurs and triplets, with a dynamic marking of *pp* (pianissimo) at the end. The lower staff has a harmonic accompaniment with slurs and triplets. Above the upper staff, there are annotations: "slow off lots" and "Top notes very glassy, well to the fore". There are also dynamic markings of *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *p* (piano) for both hands, with "l.h." (left hand) and "r.h." (right hand) labels.



louden quickly

r.h.

l.h.

S.P.

This system shows the beginning of the piece. The right hand (r.h.) features a triplet of eighth notes with the instruction "louden quickly". The left hand (l.h.) provides a harmonic accompaniment. A dynamic marking "S.P." is present below the staff.

Quicken lots impulsively

f (violently)

louden

This system continues the piece with a dynamic marking of "f (violently)". The tempo instruction "Quicken lots impulsively" is written above the staff. The music features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand.

slacken

This system shows the tempo instruction "slacken" written above the staff. The music continues with a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand.

Slow off lots

soften

l.h.

mp

p

p

S.P.

This system concludes the piece with the instruction "Slow off lots". The right hand (l.h.) has a dynamic marking of "mp", and the left hand (l.h.) has a dynamic marking of "p". A final "S.P." marking is at the bottom.

