

Life
GP - D007
voice, piano

Martha Hill Duncan

\$3.50

Martha Hill Duncan

Life

voice and piano



Text:

(After the French)

O Life, how slight!

 A little sweet,

A brief delight,

 And then we meet!

O Life, how vain!

 A little spite,

A little pain,

 And then good-night!

- *Charles G. D. Roberts*

Life

(After the French)
Voice and Piano

Charles G.D. Roberts (1860-1943)

Martha Hill Duncan

Melodramatically ♩ = 100

mf

The first system of the score consists of a vocal line on a single staff and a piano accompaniment on two staves. The vocal line begins with a whole rest, followed by a quarter rest, and then a quarter note 'O'. The piano accompaniment starts with a *mf* dynamic and features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the right hand and chords in the left hand. A *sub. p* dynamic marking is present in the second measure of the piano part.

rit. -----

a tempo

mp

The second system includes the vocal line with lyrics: "Life, how slight! A lit - tle sweet, A brief de - light, And then we". The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern. A *rit.* marking is shown above the piano part, and a *mp* dynamic marking is shown below it.

rit. -----

a tempo

mp

The third system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The piano part features a *rit.* marking above and a *mp* dynamic marking below.



Please report performances of this piece to
Martha Hill Duncan at marthakaye@cogeco.ca

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7 *sub. p* *accel.* -----

meet! O Life, how slight! A lit - tle sweet, A brief de-light, And then we meet!

7 *sub. p* *accel.* -----

10 *mf* *(slide)*

O Life, how vain! A lit - tle spite.

10 *mf* *with pedal*

14 *rit.* ----- *Exaggerated Vibrato and final 'N'* *sub. p* *accel.* -----

A lit - tle pain, O Life, how vain! A lit - tle spite, A

14 *rit.* ----- *sub. p* *accel.* -----

17 *a tempo* *mp* *accel.* *Shrug shoulders and walk off!*

lit - tle pain, And then good - night!

17 *a tempo* *mp* *accel.*

Martha Hill Duncan



Martha Hill Duncan received a diploma in Vocal Music in the first graduating class of the Houston High School for Performing and Visual Arts and a BM in Composition from the University of Texas at Austin. Her composition teachers have included Donald Grantham, Robert Palmer and Sam Dolin; her piano teachers have included Gregory Allen, Danielle Martin, Errol Haun and Trudi Borden.

Her ongoing interest in vocal music and recognition of her adopted country, Canada, has culminated in a cycle of songs for voice and piano entitled *Singing From the Northland: A Celebration of Canadian Poetry in Song*. Three of these songs, "Severance," "Grey Rocks and Greyer Seas" and "Rainfall" were chosen as finalists and performed in the 2005 Diana Barnhart American Song Competition in Wayne, PA.

As director of the Kingston, Ontario women's choir She Sings!, she has also produced several works for treble choir including "Song of the Stars," "Lady Icicle" and "Lullaby of the Iroquois." These three songs were performed on May 11, 2007 by the The New York Treble Singers in their concert entitled American Voices. "Star Prayers" was a co-winner in the 2005 Ruth Watson Henderson Choral Composition Competition. Choirs that have commissioned her work include Aurora, Melos Chamber Choir, Pro Arte Singers, and the Young Choristers Limestone.

Other vocal works from Graphite Publishing:

Abbie Betinis	GP - B005	The Clan of the Lichens (cycle)	soprano, piano
Abbie Betinis	GP - B005.1	The Prayer Wind (from <i>The Clan...</i>)	soprano, piano
Martha Hill Duncan	GP - D017	Singing in the Northland, Vol. 1 (collection)	voice, piano
Martha Hill Duncan	GP - D018	Singing in the Northland, Vol. 2 (collection)	voice, piano
Christopher Gable	GP - G001	December Carol	voice, piano
Christopher Gable	GP - G002	Solstice Lullaby	voice, piano
Jocelyn Hagen	GP - H002	Hope (cycle)	soprano, piano
Jocelyn Hagen	GP - H002.1	Heart, we will forget him (from <i>Hope</i>)	soprano, piano
Jocelyn Hagen	GP - H007	Songs of Fields and Prairies (cycle)	soprano, piano
Jocelyn Hagen	GP - H007.1	The Flower of the Field (from <i>Songs of Fields...</i>)	high voice, piano
Jocelyn Hagen	GP - H008	The Sweetness of My Dreams (cycle)	mezzo-soprano, piano
Norman Mathews	GP - M001	Songs of the Poet (cycle)	voice, piano
Norman Mathews	GP - M001.1	Sometimes with One I Love (from <i>Songs of the Poet</i>)	voice, piano
Norman Mathews	GP - M001.2	Here the Frailest Leaves of Me (from <i>Songs of the Poet</i>)	voice, piano
Norman Mathews	GP - M001.3	The Last Invocation (from <i>Songs of the Poet</i>)	voice, piano
Norman Mathews	GP - M002	Velvet Shoes	voice, piano
Norman Mathews	GP - M003	Fancy	voice, piano
Scott Robinson	GP - R002	Song of Hannah	med./high voice, vln., vc., 1-3 opt. perc.

Graphite Publishing

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