

Full Score

# Edmund Spenser Amoretti I



Mezzo-Soprano  
& String Quartet

Peter Dyson  
2005



**Edmund Spenser**

1552 -1599

**Amoretti I***For Sally Munro*

A Setting of Sonnets I - V

For Mezzo Soprano

And String Quartet

(duration: 21 mins)

Sonnet I

Happy Ye Leave

Sonnet II

Unquiet Thought

Sonnet III

The Sovereign Beauty

Sonnet IV

New Year Forth Looking Out

Sonnet V

Rudely Though Wrongest

**Peter Dyson**

2005

Edmund Spenser  
Amoretti: Sonnets 1 - 5

1.

Happy ye leaves when as those lily hands  
Which hold my life in their dead doing might,  
Shall handle you and hold in love's soft bands,  
Like captives trembling at the Victor's sight.  
And happy lines, on which with starry light,  
Those laming eyes will deign sometimes to look  
And read the sorrows of my dying spright,  
Written with tears in heart's close bleeding book.  
And happy rhymes bath'd in the sacred brook  
Of Helicon whence she derived is,  
When ye behold that Angel's blessed look,  
My soul's long lacked food, my heaven's bliss.  
*Leaves, lines and rhymes seek her to please alone,  
Whom, if you please, I care for other none.*

2.

Unquiet thought, whom at the first I bred  
Of th'inward bale of my love pined heart  
And sithens have with sighs and sorrows fed,  
Till greater than my womb thou woxen art,  
Break forth at length out of the inner part,  
In which thou lurkest like to viper's brood:  
And seek some succour both to ease my smart  
And also to sustain thyself with food.  
But if in presence of that fairest proud  
Thou chance to come, fall lowly at her feet:  
And with meek humbleness and afflicted mood,  
Pardon for thee, and grace for me entreat.  
*Which if she grant, then live, and my love cherish,  
If not, die soon, and I with thee will perish.*

3.

The sovereign beauty which I do admire,  
Witness the world how worthy to be prized:  
The light whereof hath kindled heavenly fire  
In my frail spirit by her from baseness raised.  
That being now with her huge brightness dazed,  
Base things I can no more endure to view:  
But looking still on her I stand amazed,  
At wondrous sight of so celestial hue.  
So when my tongue would speak her praises due,  
It stopped is with thoughts' astonishment:  
And when my pen would write her titles true,  
It ravish'd is with fancies' wonderment:  
*Yet in my heart I then both speak and write  
The wonder that my wit cannot indite.*

4.

New year forth looking out of Ianus gate,  
Doth seem to promise hope of new delight:  
And bidding th'old adieu, his passed date  
Bids all old thoughts to die in dumpish spright.  
And calling forth out of sad Winter's night,  
Fresh love, that long hath slept in cheerless bower,  
Wills him awake, and soon about him dight  
His wanton wings and darts of deadly power.  
For lusty spring now in his timely hour,  
Is ready to come forth him to receive:  
And warns the Earth with diverse coloured flower,  
To deck herself and her fair mantle weave.  
*Then you fair flower, in whom fresh youth doth reign,  
Prepare yourself new love to entertain.*

5.

Rudely though wrongest my dear heart's desire,  
In finding fault with her too portly pride:  
The thing which I do most in her admire,  
Is of the world unworthy most envied.  
For in those lofty looks is close implied  
Scorn of base things, and sdeigne of foul dishonour:  
Threatening rash eyes which gaze on her so wide  
That loosely they ne dare to look upon her.  
Such pride is praise; such portliness is honour,  
That boldned innocence bears in her eyes;  
And her fair countenance like a goodly banner  
Spreads in defiance of all enemies,  
*Was never in this world ought worthy tried,  
Without some spark of such self-pleasing pride.*

# Amoretti Sonnet I

Edmund Spenser  
(1552-1599)

Peter Dyson

**Dramatically** (♩ = 50)

Mezzo-soprano

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

*p* *f* *p* *mf* *f* *mf* *mf* *mf*

*pizz.* *pizz.* *pizz.*

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

*f* *p* *p* *p* *p*

*arco* *arco* *arco*

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

*f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*



19

M-S. *mf*  
Hap-py ye leaves

Vln I *f* *mf*

Vln II *f* *mf*

Vla *f* *mf* *mf*

Vc. *mf*

25

M-S. *p*  
when as those li-ly hands— Which hold my life— in their dead

Vln I *pizz.* *arco* *p*

Vln II *pizz.* *arco* *p*

Vla *p* *p*

Vc. *pizz.* *p*

30

M-S. *mf*  
do - ing might,— Shall han - dle you And hold in love's soft bands, Like

Vln I *mf*

Vln II *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vc. *mf*

36 *p* *mf*

M-S. cap-tives trem-bling at the Vic tor's si - ght.

Vln I *p* *mf* *p*

Vln II *p* *mf*

Vla *p* *mf*

Vc. *p* *mf* arco

41 *mf*

M-S. And hap - py lines, on

Vln I *f* *mf*

Vln II *mf* *f* *mf*

Vla *mf* *f* *mf*

Vc. *mf* *f* *mf*

46 *p* *pp*

M-S. which with star-ry light, Those lam-ping eyes will deign some times to look And

Vln I *p* *pp*

Vln II *p* *pp*

Vla *p* *pp*

Vc. *p*

51

M-S. *p*  
read the sor - rows of my dy - ing spright, Writ - ten with tear -

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc. *p*

57

M-S. *pp*  
- s in heart's close blee - ding book.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc. *pp* *mf*

62

M-S. *p*  
And hap - py rhymes bath'd in the sa - cred

Vln I *f* *ff* *p*

Vln II *f* *ff* *p*

Vla *f* *ff* *p*

Vc. *f* *ff* *p*



69 *mf* *mf*

M-S. brook Of He-li-con whence she de - rived is When ye be -

Vln I *mf* *mf*

Vln II *mf* *mf*

Vla *mf* *mf*

Vc. *mf* *mf*

75 *f* *mf*

M-S. hold that An gel's bles-sed look, My soul's long

Vln I *f* *mf*

Vln II *f* *mf*

Vla *f* *mf*

Vc. *f* *mf*

81 *p*

M-S. lac-ked food. my hea - ven's bliss. Leaves, lines, and

Vln I *p*

Vln II *p*

Vla *p*

Vc. *p*

88

M-S. rhymes seek her to please a - lone, Whom, if you please, I care for

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

94

M-S. o - ther none.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

St Petersburg, 26th November 2004.

*p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

# Amoretti Sonnet II

Edmund Spenser  
(1552-1599)

Peter Dyson

With tenderness (♩ = 80)

Mezzo-soprano *p* *pp*

Un-qui - et thought, whom at the first I bred \_\_\_\_\_ Of th'in ward

Violin II

Viola *p* *pp*

Violoncello *p* *pp*

108

M.S. *p* *pp*

bale of my love pined heart \_\_\_\_\_ And si - therns have with

Vln I

Vln II *p*

Vla *p*

Vc. *p*

116

M.S. *pp*

sighs and sor - rows fed, Till grea-ter than my womb thou wo-xen

Vln I *p* *pp*

Vln II *pp*

Vla *pp*

Vc. *pp*

125 *mf*

M-S. *art,* Break forth at length out of the

Vln I *p* *mf*

Vln II *p* *mf*

Vla *p* *mf*

Vc. *p* *mf*

133 *p*

M-S. in - ner part, In which thou lur - kest like to vi - per's brood: And

Vln I *p*

Vln II

Vla

Vc. *p*

142 *mf*

M-S. seek some suc - cour both to ease my smart And al - so to sus - tain thy

Vln I *mf*

Vln II *p* *mf*

Vla *p* *mf*

Vc. *mf*

152

M-S. self with food.

Vln I *p* *f* *mf*

Vln II *f* *mf*

Vla *p* *f* *mf*

Vc. *p* *f* *mf*

163

M-S. But if in pre-sence of that fai-rest proud

Vln I *f*

Vln II *f*

Vla *f* *p*

Vc. *f* *p*

173

M-S. Thou chance to come, fall low-ly at her feet: And

Vln I *p*

Vln II *p*

Vla *pp*

Vc. *pp*

181

M-S. *pp*  
 with meek hum-ble - ness and af - flic - ted mood, Par - don for thee, and

Vln I *pp*

Vln II *pp*

Vla *pp*

Vc. *p* *pp*

190

M-S.  
 grace for me en - treat.

Vln I *p*

Vln II *p*

Vla *p*

Vc. *p*

198

M-S. *mf*  
 Which if she grant, then live, and my love che - rish,

Vln I *mf*

Vln II *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vc. *mf*

208 *f*

M-S. *f*  
If not, \_\_\_\_\_ die soon, and I with thee will pe - rish. \_\_\_\_\_

Vln I *f*

Vln II *f*

Vla *f*

Vc. *f*

219

Vln I *mp*

Vln II *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vc. *mf*

226

St Petersburg, 15th December 2004

Vln I *pp*

Vln II *pp*

Vla *pp*

Vc. *pp*

# Amoretti Sonnet III

Edmund Spenser  
(1552 - 1599)

Peter Dyson

With bitterness (♩ = 100)

Mezzo-soprano

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

*mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

238

*ff* *mf* *mf* *ff* *mf* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

244

*f* *ff* *mf* *ff* *f* *ff* *mf* *ff*



250

Vln I

Vln II *mf* *p*

Vla *mf* *p*

Vc. *mf* *p*

257

M-S. *mf*  
The sove-reign beau - ty which I do ad -

Vln I *f* *mf* *mf*

Vln II *f* *mf* *mf*

Vla *f* *mf* *mf*

Vc. *f* *mf* *mf*

264

M-S. *mf*  
mire, Wit - ness the world how wor - thy to be

Vln I *p* *p*

Vln II *mf* *p* *p*

Vla *p* *mf* *p*

Vc. *p* *mf* *p*

270

M-S. *p*  
prized: \_\_\_\_\_ The light \_\_\_\_\_ where

Vln I *mf* *p*

Vln II *mf* *p*

Vla *mf* *p*

Vc. *mf* *p*

277

M-S. *mf*  
of hath kin-dled heaven-ly fire \_\_\_\_\_ In my frail spi-rit by her from base-ness

Vln I *mf*

Vln II *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vc. *mf*

283

M-S. *p*  
raised. \_\_\_\_\_

Vln I *p* *mf* *f*

Vln II *p* *mf*

Vla *p* *mf*

Vc. *p* *mf* *f*

289 *mf*

M-S. *mf*  
That be - ing now with her huge bright-ness

Vln I *ff* *mf*

Vln II *ff* *mf*

Vla *ff* *mf*

Vc. *ff* *mf*

295 *f* *mf* *f*

M-S. *f* *mf* *f*  
dazed, Base things I can no more en - dure to view;\_

Vln I *f* *mf* *f*

Vln II *f* *mf* *f*

Vla *f* *mf* *f*

Vc. *f* *mf* *f*

303 *mf*

M-S. *mf*  
But loo-king still on her I stand a - mazed At

Vln I *p* *mf*

Vln II *p* *mf*

Vla *p* *mf*

Vc. *p* *mf*

310 *f* *mf*

M-S. won-drous sight of so ce - les - tial hue.

Vln I *f* *p*

Vln II *f* *p*

Vla *f* *p*

Vc. *f* *p*

318

Vln I *p* *mf*

Vln II *p*

Vla *p*

Vc. *p*

324

Vln I *f* *p* *mf*

Vln II *f* *p* *mf*

Vla *f* *p* *mf*

Vc. *f* *p* *mf*

330

Vln I *f* *f* *mf*

Vln II *f* *ff* *mf*

Vla *f* *ff* *mf*

Vc. *ff* *mf*

337 *p*

M-S. So when my tongue would speak her prai - ses due,

Vln I *p*

Vln II *p*

Vla *p*

Vc. *p*

344 *pp*

M-S. It stop-ped is \_\_\_\_\_ with thought's a - sto - nish - ment: \_\_\_\_\_

Vln I *pp*

Vln II *pp*

Vla *pp*

Vc. *pp*

351 *p* *p* *mf*

M-S. And when my pen would write \_\_\_\_\_ her ti - tles true, \_\_\_\_\_

Vln I *p* *p* *mf*

Vln II *p* *p* *mf*

Vla *p* *p* *mf*

Vc. *p* *p* *mf*

359 *p* *p* *p* *mf* *mf*

M-S. It ra - vish'd is \_\_\_\_\_ with fan - cies' won - der - ment: \_\_\_\_\_

Vln I *p* *mf*

Vln II *p* *mf*

Vla *p* *mf*

Vc. *p* *mf*

367

M-S.

Vln I *f* *mf*

Vln II *f* *mf* *p*

Vla *f* *mf* *p*

Vc. *f* *mf* *p*

375 *p* *mf*

M-S. Yet in my heart I then both speak and

Vln I *p*

Vln II *p*

Vla *p*

Vc. *p*

383

M-S. write The won - der that my wit can - not in - dite.

Vln I *mf* *p* *pp*

Vln II *mf* *p* *pp*

Vla *mf* *p* *pp*

Vc. *mf* *p* *pp*

390

M-S.

Vln I *p* *pp* *p*

Vln II *p* *pp* *p*

Vla *p* *pp* *p*

Vc. *p* *pp* *p*

St Petersburg, 29th December 2004

397

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

*f*

*mf*

*f*

*mf*



Edmund Spenser  
(1552 - 1599)

# Amoretti Sonnet IV

Peter Dyson

Gently (♩ = 60)

*p*

Mezzo-soprano

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

*pizz.*

*f* *mf* *p* *mf*

*f* *mf* *p*

New year.

409

M-S.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

*p* *mf*

*mf* *p* *mf*

*mf* *p* *mf*

forth loo - king out of Ia - nus gate. Doth seem\_ to pro mise

417

M-S.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

*p* *p* *p*

*p* *mf* *pp*

*p* *pp* *pp*

hope\_ of new de - light: And bid ding th'old\_ a - dieu, his

425

M-S. *mf*  
pas - sed date — Bids all old thoughts to die in dum - pish

Vln I *p* *mf*

Vln II *p* *mf* *mf*

Vla *p* *mf* *mf*

Vc. *pp* *p* *mf* *mf*

431

M-S. *mf*  
spright.

Vln I *mf* *mf* *p* *p*

Vln II *mf* *mf* *p* *p*

Vla *mf* *mf* *p* *p*

Vc. *mf* *mf* *p* *p* arco

438

Vln I *mf* *f* *mf* *p*

Vln II *mf* *f* *mf* *p*

Vla *mf* *f* *mf* *p*

Vc. *mf*

445 *mf*

M-S. *mf* And call-ing forth out of sad Win ter's

Vln I *mf* *f* *mf*

Vln II *mf* *f* *mf*

Vla *mf* *f* *mf*

Vc. *mf* *f* *mf*

*pizz.*

452 *f* *mf*

M-S. *f* night, Fresh love, *mf* that long hath slept in cheer-less bo-wer,

Vln I *f* *mf*

Vln II *f* *mf*

Vla *f* *mf*

Vc. *f* *mf*

459 *mf* *f*

M-S. *mf* *f* Wills him a-wake, and soon a bout him dight

Vln I *p* *f*

Vln II *p* *f*

Vla *p* *f*

Vc. *p* *f*

465 *mf* *ff*

M-S. His wan-ton wings and darts of dead-ly po - wer.

Vln I *ff* *f* *f*

Vln II *ff* *f*

Vla *ff* *f* *f*

Vc. *ff* *f*

471

Vln I *mf* *p* *pp* *mf*

Vln II *pp* *mf*

Vla *mf* *p* *f* *mf*

Vc. *pp* *mf*

arco

478

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

484

M-S. *p*  
For lu - sty spring now in his time - ly

Vln I *p* *pp*

Vln II *p* *pp* pizz. *p*

Vla *mf* *pp* *p*

Vc. *p* *pp* *p*

491

M-S. hour, Is rea-dy to come forth him to re - ceive: And warns the Earth with di - verse

Vln I *p*

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

498

M-S. *pp*  
co-loured flo - wer, To deck her - self, and her fair man - tle weave.

Vln I arco *p*

Vln II *p*

Vla

Vc.

504

Vln I *mf*

Vln II *mf* arco

Vla *mf* (pizz.)

Vc. *mf* arco

510

Vln I *p*

Vln II *p*

Vla *p*

Vc. *p*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

516 *mf* *f*

M-S. Then you fair flo - wer, in whom fresh youth doth reign,

Vln I *p* *f* *mf*

Vln II *p* *f* *mf*

Vla *p* *p* *f* *mf*

Vc. *p* *f* *mf*

524 *mf*

M-S. *Pre - pare your - self new love to en - ter - tain.*

Vln I *p*

Vln II *p*

Vla *p*

Vc. *p*

*pp*

532

St Petersburg, 8th January 2005

Vln I *ppp*

Vln II *pp* *ppp*

Vla *pp* *ppp*

Vc. *pp* *ppp*

# Amoretti Sonnet V

Edmund Spenser  
(1552- 1599)

Accusingly (♩ = 120)

Peter Dyson

Mezzo-soprano

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.



555

Vln I *p* *cresc. poco a poco a*

Vln II *p* *cresc. poco a poco a*

Vla *p* *cresc. poco a poco a*

Vc. *p* *cresc. poco a poco a*

560

M-S. *f*  
Ru-dely thou wron-gest my

Vln I *f* *mf*

Vln II *f* *mf*

Vla *f* *mf*

Vc. *f* *mf*

565

M-S. dear heart's de - sire.

Vln I *p* *cresc. poco a poco a*

Vln II *p* *cresc. poco a poco a*

Vla *p* *cresc. poco a poco a*

Vc. *p* *cresc. poco a poco a*

570 *mf*

M-S.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

In find-ing fault with

*f*

575

M-S.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

her too port-ly pride:

*p*

580 *mf*

M-S.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

The thing which I do most in her ad - mire, Is of the world un - wor-thy most

*mf*

*p*

586

M-S. en - vied.

Vln I *cresc. poco a poco a*

Vln II *cresc. poco a poco a*

Vla *cresc. poco a poco a*

Vc. *cresc. poco a poco a*

590

Vln I *f*

Vln II *f*

Vla *f*

Vc. *f*

594

M-S. *mf* For in those lof - ty looks\_\_

Vln I *mf*

Vln II *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vc. *mf*

599

M-S. is close im - plied Scorn of base things, and sdeigne of foul dis - hon - our:—

Vln I *mf*

Vln II *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vc. *mf*

605

M-S. Threatening rash eyes which gaze on her so wide That

Vln I *p*

Vln II *p*

Vla *p*

Vc. *p*

612

M-S. loose - ly they ne dare — to look at her. —

Vln I *pp*

Vln II *pp*

Vla *pp*

Vc. *pp*

619

M-S. *mf*  
Such pride is praise;

Vln I *mf* *p* *mf*

Vln II *mf* *p* *mf*

Vla *mf* *p* *mf*

Vc. *mf* *p* *mf*

625

M-S. *mf* *p* *p*  
such port-li ness is ho - nour, — That bold-ned in - no - cence — bears in her

Vln I *p* *pp*

Vln II *p* *pp*

Vla *p* *pp*

Vc. *p* *pp*

632

M-S. *mf*  
eyes; And her fair coun-ten-ance — like — a good-ly ban - ner

Vln I *p*

Vln II *p*

Vla *p*

Vc. *p*

639 *f*

M-S. *f*  
Spreads in de - fi - ance of all e - ne - mies, \_\_\_\_\_

Vln I *f* *mf*

Vln II *f* *mf*

Vla *f* *mf*

Vc. *f* *mf*

646 *mf*

M-S. *mf*  
Was ne-ver in this

Vln I *p*

Vln II *p* *p*

Vla *p*

Vc. *p*

654 *p*

M-S. *p*  
world ough wor - thy tried, \_\_\_\_\_ With - out some spark of such self plea - sing

Vln I *pp*

Vln II *pp*

Vla *pp*

Vc. *p* *pp*

661

M-S. pride.

Vln I *f*

Vln II *f*

Vla *f*

Vc. *f*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

Slower (♩ = 100)

667

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

*p*

*p*

*p*

St Petersburg, 24th January 2005

671

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*p*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

niente

niente

niente

niente