

PERFORMANCE NOTES

John Farmer was a little known composer in the Renaissance period (1400-1600). Today we might call him a “one hit wonder,” in that *Fair Phyllis* was really the only “popular” song he wrote, both in his time and today. Little is known about Farmer. We know that he was born around 1570, but there is no documentation of his death. He was an organist in Dublin and later resided in London. We also know that he wrote and published *Fair Phyllis* in his *First Set of English Madrigals* in 1599, and was said to be a contemporary of other madrigal composers, such as the famous Thomas Morley.

Fair Phyllis is a fun song (and should be sung that way!) about a girl named Phyllis. In Greek mythology, Phyllis was a girl who turned into an almond tree when she died. Although this song doesn't refer to that story, it does refer to Phyllis being courted by her suitor, Amyntas. This three-part mixed arrangement has been written in the original key of F major. However, Parts II and III have been somewhat altered to accommodate younger voices. Also, some of the text has been revised to make it more appropriate for younger singers. Try to achieve the dynamic contrast throughout the piece, and a dance-like feeling in the triple meter section that begins in measure 32. I hope you enjoy singing this fun madrigal by John Farmer.

Preview
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FAIR PHYLLIS

for 3-part mixed voices, a cappella*

Arranged by
RUSSELL ROBINSON

JOHN FARMER (c. 1570? - 1605?)

In a quick four or slow two (♩ = ca. 132) (♩ = ♩ throughout)

PART I *f-p*

Fair Phyl - lis I saw sit - ting all a - lone, feed - ing

PART II *f-p*

Feed - ing

PART III *f-p*

Feed - ing

In a quick four or slow two (♩ = ca. 132) (♩ = ♩ throughout)

PIANO *f-p* (for rehearsal only)

4

her flock near to the moun - tain side. Fair side. The

her flock near to the moun - tain side. side.

her flock near to the moun - tain side. side.

1. *p* 2. *mf*

1. *p* 2. *mf*

* Also available T.T.B. (37941)

8

shep - herds knew not, they knew not whith - er she was

mf

The shep - herds knew not whith - er she was

mf

The shep - herds

10

gone.

gone, they knew not whith - er she was gone. But

knew not, they knew not whith - er she was gone.

12

But af - ter her suit - or,* her suit - or, but af - ter her

af - ter her suit - or,* her suit - tor, but af - ter her

But af - ter her suit - or,* her suit - or.

15

suit - or, A - myn - tas, hied.**

suit - or, A - myn - tas, hied.**

but af - ter her suit - or, A - myn - tas, hied.** Up and down he

* suitor: a man who courts or seeks to marry a woman.

** hied (pronounced with a long i, *hyed*): moved quickly.

18 *(mf)*

Up and down he wan - dered,

(mf)

Up and down, up and down he

wan - dered, up and

20

up and down he wan - dered,

wan - dered, up and down he wan -

down he wan - dered, up and down he

22

up and down he wan - dered, up and down he
dered, up and down he wan - dered, up and
wan - dered, up and

25

wan - dered, up and down he wan -
down he wan - dered, he wan -
down, up and down he wan - dered, up and down he wan -

27

dered, while she was miss - ing. When

dered, while she was miss - ing. When _

dered, while she was miss - ing. When

he found her.

he found her. O, then they

he, when he found _ her. O, then they

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33

f

O, then they

start - ed danc - ing. O, then they

start - ed danc - ing. O, then they

36

start - ed danc - ing, a - danc - ing. O,

start - ed danc - ing, a - danc - ing. O,

start - ed danc - ing, a - danc - ing. O,

39

(rit. to end second time)

1. (to m. 18, p. 6) 2.



then they start - ed danc - ing. danc - ing.

(rit. to end second time)



then they start - ed danc - ing. danc - ing.

(rit. to end second time)



then they start - ed danc-ing. Up and down he danc - ing.

1. (to m. 18, p. 6) 2.

(rit. to end second time)



then they start - ed danc-ing. Up and down he danc - ing.

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For further study in warm-ups, see:

The Complete Choral Warm-Up Book - 11653

by Russell Robinson and Jay Althouse

Other madrigals in this style from Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.:

ALL YE WHO MUSIC LOVE - Donato/Robinson

3-Part Mixed - 11653

SSA - 20096

APRIL IS IN MY MISTRESS' FACE - Morley/Robinson

3-Part Mixed - 18591

FIRE, FIRE - Morley/Robinson

3-Part Mixed - 19205

HOW MERRILY WE LIVE - East/Robinson

3-Part Mixed - 16331

SSA - 21052

IN THESE DELIGHTFUL PLEASANT GROVES - Purcell/Robinson

SATB - 18603

3-Part Mixed - 11342

SSA - 18604

MATONA, MIA CARA - di Lasso/Robinson

SATB - 21053

3-Part Mixed - 21054

MY BONNIE LASS - Morley/Robinson

3-Part Mixed - 16221

MON COEUR SE RECOMMANDE À VOUS - di Lasso/Robinson

3-Part Mixed - 20097

NOW IS THE MONTH OF MAYING - Morley/Robinson

3-Part Mixed - 17674

SSA - 21649

SING WE AND CHANT IT - Morley/Robinson

SATB - 19262

3-Part Mixed - 5809

SSA - 19263

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