

STREPHON's Complaint of Love

Set by Mr. HANDEL

G. F. Händel (1685–1759)

B.c. arr. by Christian Mondrup

Voice

Oh! cru - el Ty - rant Love Why art thou so _____ un -

Basso Continuo

5

kind? Wilt _ thou no mild - er prove, Nor _ ease my _ troubl - ed _

11

Mind? No Joy _ shall I _ e'er see? But still tor - ment - ed _

17

be? And from such dis - mal Grief, Shall I _ ne'er find _ re - lief?

2. Since thou hast wounded me,
 Why dost thou not impart
 Some of the Cruelty,
 And make her feel some Smart?
 Tell her how I do burn,
 How I lament and mourn!
 When she the Truth doth know,
 She must some Pity show.

3. Beauty enthron'd doth stand
 Upon her smiling Brow:
 Her blushing Cheeks command
 Me at her Feeet to bow:
 Her golden Tresses wave,
 Her rising Breasts enslave,
 Lightning darts from her Eyes,
 And kills me by Surprise.

4. Yet tho' she is most fair,
 Why should she me disdain?
 If Wealth surrounds my Dear,
 Why must I suffer Pain?
 Were she as poor as *Job*,
 I in a Royal Robe,
 And Lord of all the Land,
 I'd be at her command.

5. All Day I sigh and weep,
 And vainly do lament!
 All Night I cannot sleep!
 I never rest content!
 But still am fill'd with Pain,
 Scorn, Woe, and sad Disdain:
 These Racks I cannot bear,
 And yet she will not hear!

6. What Joys can *Myra* take,
 After she does behold
 Poor *Strephon*, for her Sake,
 Laid in the Dreary Mould?
 O most unhappy Fate!
 Then Pity comes too late:
 Myra, my Life preserve,
 And thee I'll always serve.

7. I'll wander for her Sake,
 Or keep myself confin'd,
 If she no Pity take
 On my distracted Mind.
 O ease the burning Smart,
 Of my poor suff'ring Heart;
 Else 'twill my Ruin prove;
 Farewell then Life and Love!