

A Medieval Ballad

(An incident from the 'Historia mei Temporis'
of the Abbé Michel de Bourdeille)

WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS

RANDALL SHINN

Relaxed ♩ = 76

High Voice

Piano

mp

Said la-dy_ once to

6

lov-er,_ 'None can re-ly up - on A love that lacks its pro-per food; And

11

if your love were gone How could you sing those songs of love?

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15

I should be blamed young man. O my dear, O my dear.

19

Have no lit candles in your

24

room,' That love-ly la dy said, 'That I at mid-night by the clock May

30

creep in-to your bed, For if I saw my-self creep in I think I should drop

35

dead. O my dear, O my dear.

41

46

'I love a man in se-cret, Dear cham-ber

50

maid,'said she. I know that I must drop down dead If

53

he stop lov-ing me, Yet what could I but drop down dead If I

57

lost my chas-ti - ty? O my dear, O my

61

dear. rit.

68 Relaxed ♩ = 76

Relaxed ♩ = 76

Relaxed ♩ = 76

p *mf*

pp *mp*

74

mp

'So you must lie be side him And let him

p

pp

80

think me there, And may-be we are all the same Where

83

mf

no__ can dles are, And may be we are all the same That strip the bo-dy

mp

88

bare.' O_____ my dear, O_____ my

91

mp

rall. . . . slower ♩ = 60

dear. _____

p

pp

96

Moderate ♩ = 58

Moderate ♩ = 58

f

mp

p

101

Free ♩ = c. 69

But no dogs barked, and mid-nights chimed, And through the chime she'd say,

Free ♩ = c. 69

p

Free ♩ = c. 69

p

105

Moderate ♩ = 58

'That was a luck-y thought of mine, My lov-er looked so gay';

Moderate ♩ = 58

Moderate ♩ = 58

f