



SONGS OF COURTSHIP
II. HEIDENRÖSLEIN
ROSE OF HEATH AND HEATHER

arr. HARRIS LOEWEN

SATB
RM ACH 222

RENFORTH MUSIC
Rothesay, New Brunswick, Canada
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NOTES

Most German folk songs (both lyrics and music) were written or collected in the 19th century, although many elements date from the 18th century or earlier, and some were collected as late as the early 20th century. While many texts and tunes remain anonymous, some that were adopted or adapted to become “folk songs” were originally created by known major and minor poets and composers. Some even originated in non-Germanic countries, such as France and Italy.

Heidenröslein is one of three folk songs chosen for my suite of choral arrangements dealing with romantic love. Given the historical context of these poems, I have called them *Songs of Courtship*. In each setting, I have tried to create or enhance a sense of dialogue, using men’s and women’s voices; this is especially true of the concluding item in the suite.

For *Heidenröslein*, I have chosen Heinrich Werner’s lovely, muted setting of Goethe’s famous poem. Youthful impetuosity results in pain for both the youth and the young “rose,” despite the exchange of warnings sung by the men, then the women. For reasons of tonality (F-Eb-F), tempo (progressively faster) and an emotional arc, I suggest that *Heidenröslein* be the middle song of the suite, when all three scores are performed together.

Harris Loewen
Arranger, Translator

Heidenröslein

Rose of Heath and Heather

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, 1771
Translation: Harris Loewen

Heinrich Werner, 1829
Arranged by Harris Loewen

$\text{♩} = 108$
mp

Soprano
Alto

Sah' ein Knab' ein Rös - lein stehn,
Once a lad es - pied a rose,

Tenor
Bass

Sah' ein Knab' ein Rös - lein stehn,
Once a lad es - pied a rose,

5

Rös - lein auf der Hei - den,
rose of heath and heath er,

Rös - lein auf der Hei - den,
rose of heath and heath er,

9

war so jung und mor - gen schön,
young and fair as morn - ing glows;

war so jung und mor - gen schön,
young and fair as morn - ing glows;

13

lief er schnell es nah' zu seh'n,
 ran the lad to see her close,
 lief er schnell es nah' zu seh'n,
 ran the lad to see her close,

17

sah's mit viel en Freu den.
 saw her with great pleas ure.
 sah's mit viel en Freu den.
 saw her with great pleas ure.

21

Rös lein, Rös lein, Rös lein rot,
 Rose, oh rose, oh red, red rose,
 Rös lein, Rös lein, Rös lein rot,
 Rose, oh rose, oh red, red rose,

25

Rös lein auf der Hei den.
 rose of heath and heath er.
 Rös lein auf der Hei den.
 rose of heath and heath er.

(Next: TBB)

A
29 *mf*

T
Kna - be sprach, — ich bre - che dich,
Said — the lad: — I'll pluck - you there,

B
mf
Kna - be sprach, — ich bre - che dich,
Said — the lad: — I'll pluck - you there,

33 (Next: SSAA)

T
Rös - lein auf — der Hei - den.
rose of heath — and heath - er.

B
Rös - lein auf — der Hei - den.
rose of heath — and heath - er.

37 *f*

S
Rös - lein sprach, ich ste - che dich, dass du e - wig
Rose re - plied: I sting, be - ware, you shall have — a

A
f
Rös - lein sprach, ich ste - che dich, dass du e - wig
Rose — re - plied: I sting, be - ware, you shall have — a

43 *mf* *rit.* (Next: SATB)

T
denkst an mich, und ich will's — nicht lei - den.
scar to bear, if my heart — you sev - er.

B
mf
denkst — an mich, und ich will's nicht lei - den.
scar — to bear, if my heart you sev - er.