

The Seeds of Love

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "1. I sowed the seeds of love right ear - - ly in the spring". The second staff continues the melody with a dotted quarter note and a quarter note. The lyrics are: "I sowed the seeds of ___ love right ear - - ly in the spring". The third staff features a change in time signature to 2/4, then back to 4/4. The lyrics are: "In Ap - ril, May and June like - wise, When small birds they do sing ____". The fourth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line. The lyrics are: "When small birds they ___ do sing".

1. I sowed the seeds of love right ear - - ly in the spring

I sowed the seeds of ___ love right ear - - ly in the spring

In Ap - ril, May and June like - wise, When small birds they do sing ____

When small birds they ___ do sing

2. The gardener standing by, I asked him to choose for me. (repeat)
He chos-ed the violet, the lily and the pink,
And those flowers I refused all three. (repeat)
3. The violet I did not like, because it fades too soon (repeat)
But the lily and the pink I gave them the wink
And I vowed I would stay till June (repeat)
4. For in June there's the red rose bud, and that is the flower for me (repeat)
I have oft times picking at the red rosy bud
And gained but the willow tree (repeat)
5. The willow tree won't twain, and the willow tree won't twine, (repeat)
For no more did the fair and elusive young maid
That once stole this heart of mine. (repeat)

Source: William "Daddy" Shepherd, Winchcombe workhouse. Collected by Percy Grainger 4th April 1908.

Notes: Mr Shepherd's text was incomplete so the words have been supplemented from another Gloucestershire version.