

An eine Äolsharfe

J. Brahms (1833-1897) | H. Wolf (1860-1903)

Angelehnt an die Efeuwand

Leaning against the ivy-covered-wall

Dieser alten Terrasse,

of-this old terrace,

Du, einer luftgebor'nen Muse

you, of-an airborne muse

Geheimnisvolles Saitenspiel,

mysterious stringed-instrument,

Fang' an,

started up,

Fange wieder an

started again up

Deine melodische Klage!

your melodious lament!

Ihr kommet, Winde, fern herüber,

You come, winds, from-far away,

Ach, von des Knaben,

Ah, from the boy's,

Der mir so lieb war,

who to-me so dear was,

Frischgrünendem Hügel.

freshly-greened mound.

English Translation

Leaning against the ivy-covered wall
Of this old terrace,

You, an air-borne muse,
A mysterious stringed-instrument,
Began,

Began again,
Your melodious lament!

You come, winds, from far away,
Ah! from the boy's

Who was so dear to me,
From his freshly green mound.

On your way, grazing over spring blossoms
Saturated with sweet scents,
How sweetly, how sweetly you assail my
heart!

You murmur in the strings here,
Drawn by the harmonious melancholy,
Growing louder in the pull of my longing,
And dying down again.

But all at once,
As the wind bursts in more violently
And a lovely cry of the harp

Echoes, to my sweet terror,
My soul suddenly stirring,

And here, the large rose shakes and strews
All its petals at my feet!

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Und Frühlingsblüten unterwegs streifend,

And spring-blossoms on-the-way grazing,

Übersättigt mit Wohlgerüchen,

saturated with sweet-scents,

Wie süß, wie süß bedrängt ihr dies Herz!

how sweetly, how sweetly assail you my heart!

Und säuselt her in die Saiten,

And murmur here in the strings,

Angezogen von wohl lautender Wehmut,

drawn by-the harmonious melancholy,

Wachsend im Zug meiner Sehnsucht,

growing-louder in-the pull of-my longing,

Und hinsterbend wieder.

And dying-down again.

Aber auf einmal,

But (all)-at once,

Wie der Wind heftiger her stößt,

as the wind more-violently bursts-in,

Ein holder Schrei der Harfe

a lovely cry of-the harp

Wiederholt, mir zu süßem Erschrecken

echoes, for-me in sweet terror,

Meiner Seele plötzliche Regung;

my soul suddenly agitation;

Und hier– die volle Rose streut, geschüttelt,

and here– the full rose strews, shaken,



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All' ihre Blätter vor meine Füße!

all its petals at my feet!