

# Black is the Color of My True Love's Hair

(traditional)

Composed for the singers  
and the orchestra of Rockport  
High School, Patti Pike and  
Nathan Cohen, directors.

Carleton Macy

Andante (♩=60)

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Violin

Violin

Viola

Cello

Bass

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. It features a vocal section with four parts: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. The vocal parts are currently silent, indicated by whole rests. The instrumental section includes Violin I and Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Bass. The Violin I part begins with a melody in the first measure, marked *pp*. The Violin II part provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth-note patterns, also marked *pp*. The Viola, Cello, and Bass parts are silent, indicated by whole rests. The score is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The tempo is marked Andante with a quarter note equal to 60 beats per minute.

Black is the Color of My True Love's Hair

7

S

A

T

B

*p*

Black is the co-lor \_\_\_\_\_ of my true love's hair.

*p*

Black is the co-lor \_\_\_\_\_ of my true love's hair.

7

Vln.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

*pp*

*p*

*p*

*pizz.*

Cb.

*pp*

*pp*

13

S  
A  
T  
B

her lips are like \_\_\_\_\_  
her lips are like \_\_\_\_\_

13

Vln.  
Vln.  
Vla.  
Vc.  
Cb.

*mp* *pp* *p* *pizz.* *p*

Black is the Color of My True Love's Hair

19

S  
A  
T  
B

some ro - ses fair. She has the sweet - est smile \_\_\_\_\_ and the gent - lest

some ro - ses fair. She has the sweet - est smile \_\_\_\_\_ and the gent - lest

19

Vln.  
Vln.  
Vla.  
Vc.  
Cb.

*mp* *p* *mp* *p* *p* *p*

25 *Piu Mosso (c. 76)*  
*mp*

S

A *Piu Mosso (c. 76)*  
*mp* I love my love

T *pp* *Piu Mosso (c. 76)*  
*mp* hands I love the ground where - on she stands. I love my

B *pp* *Piu Mosso (c. 76)*  
*mp* hands I love the ground where - on she stands. I love my

25 *Piu Mosso (c. 76)*

Vln. *p*

Vln. *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

Cb.

Black is the Color of My True Love's Hair

31

S *mf*  
and well he knows, I love the ground where-on he goes.

A *mf*  
and well he knows, I love the ground where-on he goes.

T *mf*  
love and well she knows, I love the ground where-on she

B *mf*  
love and well she knows, I love the ground where-on she

31

Vln. *p*

Vln. *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

Cb. *p*

37

S  
I wish the day it soon would come when he and

A  
I wish the day it soon would come when he and

T  
8 goes, I wish the day it soon would come when

B  
goes, I wish the day it soon would come when

37

Vln.  
mp

Vln.  
mp

Vla.  
mp

Vc.  
mp

Cb.  
mp

Black is the Color of My True Love's Hair

42

S  
I could be as one. I, I go to the shore and

A  
I could be as one. I, I go to the shore and

T  
she and I could be as one. I, I go to the shore and

B  
she and I could be as one. I, I, I go to the shore and

*mf* *rit.* *f* *meno mosso (c. 66)*

42

Vln.  
*f*

Vln.  
*f*

Vla.  
*f*

Vc.  
*f*

Cb.  
*mp* *f*

*arco*



47

S  
mourn and weep for sa-tis-fied, — I ne'er can be, I write a let-ter, —

A  
mourn and weep — for sa-tis-fied, — I ne'er can be, I write a let-ter, —

T  
8  
mourn and weep for sa-tis-fied, — I ne'er can be, I write a let-ter, —

B  
mourn and weep for sa-tis-fied, — I ne'er can be, I write a let-ter, —

47

Vln.  
pizz.  
arco

Vla.  
pizz.  
arco

Vc.  
pizz.  
p

Cb.

Black is the Color of My True Love's Hair

52

S *pp* — just a few short lines, *p* and suf - fer death *pp* a thou - sand times. *rit.* *accel.*

A *pp* — just a few short lines, *p* and suf - fer death *pp* a thou - sand times. *rit.* *accel.*

T *pp* — just a few short lines, a thou - sand times. *pp* *rit.* *accel.*

B *pp* — just a few short lines, a thou - sand times. *pp* *rit.* *accel.*

52

Vln. *ppp*

Vln. *ppp*

Vla. *ppp*

Vc. *ppp* arco

Cb. *ppp*

58

*Piu Mosso (c. 76)*

Vocal staves for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). Each staff contains a whole rest in every measure, indicating that the vocalists are silent during this section.

58

*Piu Mosso (c. 76)*

Instrumental staves for Violin I (Vln.), Violin II (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The music begins at measure 58 with a dynamic of *mp* and transitions to *f* at measure 60. The Violin I part features a melodic line with slurs and accents. The Violin II part provides harmonic support with slurs. The Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass parts play a steady bass line with slurs. The Viola part includes a dynamic marking of *f* at measure 60.

Black is the Color of My True Love's Hair

63

*rit. meno mosso (c. 66)*

S

A

T

B

63

*rit. meno mosso (c. 66)*

Vln.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

68 *rit.* **Tempo Primo (c. 60)**  
*p*

S Black is the

A Black is the

T Black is the

B Black is the

68 *rit.* **Tempo Primo (c. 60)**  
*p mp p mp ppp*

Vln. *p pp ppp*

Vln. *p pp ppp*

Vla. *p pp ppp*

Vc. *p pp ppp*

Cb. *pp ppp*

## Black is the Color of My True Love's Hair

73

S  
co - lor \_\_\_ of my true love's hair, \_\_\_ his lips are like \_\_\_ some

A  
co - lor \_\_\_ of my true love's hair, \_\_\_ his lips are like \_\_\_ some

T  
co - lor \_\_\_ of my true love's hair, \_\_\_ her lips are like \_\_\_ some

B  
co - lor \_\_\_ of my true love's hair, \_\_\_ her lips are like \_\_\_ some

73

Vln.  
*ppp*

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.  
*ppp*

77

S  
ros - es fair \_\_\_\_\_ he has the sweet - est smile \_\_\_\_\_ and the gent' lest

A  
ros - es fair \_\_\_\_\_ he has the sweet - est smile \_\_\_\_\_ and the gent' lest

T  
ros - es fair \_\_\_\_\_ she has the sweet-est smile \_\_\_\_\_ and the gent' lest

B  
ros - es fair \_\_\_\_\_ she has the sweet-est smile \_\_\_\_\_ and the gent' lest

77

Vln.  
Vln.  
Vla.  
Vc.  
Cb.

81 *rit.*

S hands. I love the ground where-on he stands *rit.*

A hands. I love the ground where-on he stands *rit.*

T hands. I love the ground where-on she stands *rit.*

B hands. I love the ground where-on she stands *rit.*

81 *rit.* *al niente*

Vln. *pp*

Vln. *pp*

Vla. *pp*

Vc. *pp*

Cb. *pp*

The image displays a page of a musical score for the song "Black is the Color of My True Love's Hair". It features four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and five string staves (Violins, Viola, Violoncello, Contrabass). The vocal parts include lyrics and are marked with "rit." (ritardando). The string parts are marked with "rit." and "al niente" (fading out). The score is numbered 81 at the beginning of each system. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 6/4. The string parts include various articulations like accents and slurs.