

**Choral Music of Karen P. Thomas**

# **To Mistress Margaret Hussey**

ATTB

by Karen P. Thomas

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**To Mistress Margaret Hussey**

**John Skelton (1460-1529)**

Merry Margaret as midsummer flower,  
Gentle as falcon or hawk of the tower: <sup>1</sup>  
With solace and gladness, much mirth and no madness,  
All good and no badness;  
    So joyously, so maidenly, so womanly  
    Her demeaning in every thing,  
    Far, far passing that I can indite, or suffice to write  
Of Merry Margaret as midsummer flower,  
Gentle as falcon or hawk of the tower.  
    As patient and still and as full of good will  
As fair Isaphill,<sup>2</sup> Coriander,<sup>3</sup> Sweet pomander,<sup>4</sup> Good Cassander,<sup>5</sup>  
Steadfast of thought, well made, well wrought,  
Far may be sought ere that ye can find so courteous, so kind  
As Merry Margaret, this midsummer flower,  
Gentle as falcon or hawk of the tower.

<sup>1</sup> Hawk trained to fly high (tower).

<sup>2</sup> Hypsipyle, princess of Lemnos, savior of her father's life, comforter of the Argives, mother of twins by Jason.

<sup>3</sup> An aromatic herb.

<sup>4</sup> A mixture of perfumed or aromatic substances made into a ball.

<sup>5</sup> Cassandra, daughter of Priam and Hecuba. According to myth her beauty bedazzled Apollo, who conferred on her the gift of prophecy.

*Dedicated with gratitude to the musicians of Seattle Pro Musica and to their founding conductor, Dr. Richard Sparks. The creation of this work was supported by Seattle Pro Musica Board of Directors and Friends, a Seattle Arts Commission Individual Artist Grant, and a Washington State Arts Commission Fellowship.*

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# To Mistress Margaret Hussey

from Three Medieval Lyrics

Lyric by John Skelton (1460-1529)

Music by Karen P. Thomas

♩ = 86  
Lightly flowing

1 *mp*

Counter-tenor  
Mer-ry Mar - garet, as mid - sum - mer flow - er, gen - tle as

Tenor I  
Mer-ry Mar - garet, as mid - sum - mer flow - er, gen - tle as

Tenor II  
Mer-ry Mar - garet, as mid - sum - mer flow - er, gen - tle as

Bass  
Mer-ry Mar - garet, as mid - sum - mer flow - er, gen - tle as

4 *poco cresc.*

C.T.  
fal - con or hawk of the tow - er: with so - lace and glad - ness, much mirth and no

T. I  
fal - con or hawk of the tow - er: much mirth and no

T. II  
fal - con or hawk of the tow - er: with so - lace and glad - ness, much mirth and no

B.  
fal - con or hawk of the tow - er:

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*molto rit.*

8

C.T. *mf* mad-ness, all good and no bad-ness; so joy-ous-ly, *p*

T. I *mf* 8 mad-ness, all good and no bad-ness; so maid-en-ly *p*

T. II *mf* 8 mad-ness, all good and no bad-ness; so, so wo-man-ly, *mf*

B. *poco cresc.* *mf* *mp* *p* *mf* all good and no bad-ness; so, so wo-man-ly,

*accel. poco a poco*

12

C.T. *p* her de-mean-ing *mp* or suf-

T. I *p* 8 far, far pass-ing that *mp* I can in-dite, or suf-

T. II *p* 8 that *mp* I can in-dite, or suf-

B. *mp* *p* *mp* her, in e-v'ry thing, far, far pass-ing that I can in-dite, or suf-

A Tempo

16 *cresc.* *mf* *dim.* *mp*

C.T. fice to write of Mer-ry Mar-garet, as mid-sum-mer flow-er, gen-tle as fal-con or hawk of the

T. I *cresc.* *mf* *dim.* *mp*

T. II *cresc.* *mf* *dim.* *mp*

B. *cresc.* *mf* *dim.* *mp*

fice to write of Mer-ry Mar-garet, as mid-sum-mer flow-er, gen-tle as fal-con or hawk of the

20 *poco cresc.* *mf*

C.T. tow-er: As pa-tient and still and as full of good will as fair I - sap-hill,

T. I *poco cresc.* *mf*

T. II *mp* *poco cresc.* *mf*

B. *mp* *mf*

tow-er: as full of good will as fair I - sap-hill,

24 *mp* *rit.* *p*

C.T. as Cor - i - an - der,

T. I *mp* *p*  
sweet po - man - der,

T. II *mp* *p*  
good Cas - san - der,

B. *p* *mp*  
mm stead-fast of

29 *accel. poco a poco* *pp* *mp* *cresc.*

C.T. so cour-teous, so

T. I *pp* *mp* *cresc.*  
ere that ye can find so cour-teous, so

T. II *pp* *mp* *cresc.*  
far may be sought ere that ye can find so cour-teous, so

B. *mp* *cresc.*  
, thought, well made, well wrought, far may be sought ere that ye can find so cour-teous, so

33 *mf* *A Tempo* *dim.* *mp* *poco cresc. e accel.*

C.T. kind as Mer - ry Mar - garet, this mid - sum - mer flow - er, gen - tle as *poco cresc. e accel.*

T. I *mf* *dim.* *mp* ,

T. II *mf* *dim.* *mp* ,

B. *mf* *dim.* *mp* ,

kind as Mer - ry Mar - garet, this mid - sum - mer flow - er, gen - tle as

36 *mf* *dim.* *mp*

C.T. fal - con, gen - tle as fal - con, gen - tle as fal - con or hawk of the tow - er. *dim.* *mp*

T. I *mf* *dim.* *mp*

T. II *mf* *dim.* *mp*

B. *mf* *dim.* *mp*

fal - con, gen - tle as fal - con, gen - tle as fal - con or hawk of the tow - er.