

The Passing of the Year

1. Invocation

O Earth, O Earth, return!

William Blake

2. The narrow bud opens her beauties to the sun

The narrow bud opens her beauties to
The sun, and love runs in her thrilling veins;
Blossoms hang round the brows of morning, and
Flourish down the bright cheek of modest eve,
Till clust'ring Summer breaks forth into singing,
And feather'd clouds strew flowers round her head.

The spirits of the air live on the smells
Of fruit; and joy, with pinions light, roves round
The gardens, or sits singing in the trees.

William Blake

*Summer is icumen in
Lhude sing cuccu*

3. Answer July

Answer July –
Where is the Bee –
Where is the Blush –
Where is the Hay?

Ah, said July –
Where is the Seed –
Where is the Bud –
Where is the May –
Answer Thee – Me –

Nay – said the May –
Show me the Snow –
Show me the Bells –
Show me the Jay!

Quibbled the Jay –
Where be the Maize –
Where be the Haze –
Where be the Bur?
Here – said the Year –

Emily Dickinson

In memory of my mother

THE PASSING OF THE YEAR

1. Invocation

(William Blake)

Jonathan Dove

Steadily pulsing ♩ = 84

CHORUS I

S. *p* O Earth, O

A. *p* O Earth, O

T. *p* O Earth, O

B. *p* O Earth, O

CHORUS II

S. *p* O Earth, O

A. *p* O Earth, O

T. *p* O Earth, O

B. *p* O Earth, O

Piano

pp dry

mp 3 3 3 3 3

4. Hot sun, cool fire

(George Peele)

Languorous ♩ = 60

CHORUS I

S. *p* *dolciss.* Hot sun, cool fire, tem-per'd with sweet air,

A. *p* *dolciss.* Hot sun, cool fire, tem-per'd with sweet air,

T. *pp* *breathy (sotto voce)* Ah Ah

B. *pp* *breathy (sotto voce)* Ah Ah

CHORUS II

S. *pp* Hot...*) cool... sweet air...

A. *pp* Hot...*) cool... sweet air...

T. *pp* *breathy (sotto voce)* Ah Ah

B. *pp* *breathy (sotto voce)* Ah Ah

Piano

pp

Ped.

*) very soft consonant!

Languorous ♩ = 60

8 **24**

S. *pp* Black... fair... Sha - -dow my hair:

A. *pp* Black... fair... Sha - -dow my hair:

S. *p (to the fore)* Black shade, fair nurse, Sha -dow my white hair:

A. *pp* Black... fair... Sha - -dow my hair:

24

Ped.