



Joseph N. Rubinstein
How She Went to Ireland

Four Part Mixed Chorus with Divisi and Piano Accompaniment

Poetry

Dora's gone to Ireland
Through the sleet and snow;
Promptly she has gone there
In a ship, although
Why she's gone to Ireland
Dora does not know.

That was where, yea, Ireland,
Dora wished to be:
When she felt, in lone times,
Shoots of misery,
Often there, in Ireland,
Dora wished to be.

Hence she's gone to Ireland,
Since she meant to go,
Through the drift and darkness
Onward labouring, though
That she's gone to Ireland
Dora does not know.

- Thomas Hardy

Program Notes

Thomas Hardy's mysterious poem "How She Went to Ireland" is a short and rhythmic piece about a woman named Dora, who may or may not have boarded a ship for a wintry sea-voyage to Ireland. Hardy does not explain whether the trip actually happened, or whether it was an internal psychological voyage, but the poem implies that either way, the journey was misguided. To illustrate the vague and possibly meaningless nature of Dora's trip, I used musical material that seems to change and evolve on its surface, but which remains rooted in the same fixed harmonies for the majority of the piece. I also made use of thick and heavy voicings to evoke the "drift and darkness" that Hardy so vividly describes. The "Irish" element of the poem made its way into the music through a very slow compound meter that I imagined sounding like a glacial Irish jig.

- Joseph Rubinstein

How She Went To Ireland

Thomas Hardy

Joseph N. Rubinstein

Mysterious ♩ = 42

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

PIANO

Do - ra's gone to I - re - land Through the sleet and

Do - ra's gone to I - re - land Through the sleet and

Do - ra's gone to I - re - land Through the sleet and

Mysterious ♩ = 42

mp *pp*

Pedal on harmonic changes unless otherwise marked.

6

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

snow; Prompt - ly she has gone there In a ship, al - though al - though

snow; Prompt - ly she has gone there In a ship, al - though al - though

snow; Prompt - ly she has gone there In a ship, al - though al - though

In a ship, al - though al - though

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

How She Went To Ireland

12 *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

S. In a ship, al - though Why she's gone to I - re - land Do - ra does not know

A. In a ship, al - though Why she's gone to I - re - land Do - ra does not know

T. In a ship, al - though Why she's gone to I - re - land Do - ra

B. In a ship, al - though Why she's gone to I - re - land Do - ra does not

Pno. *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

18 *pp* *ppp* *mf*

S. Do - ra does not know Do - ra does not know Do - ra does not know That

A. Do - ra does not know Do - ra does not know Do - ra does not know That

T. Do - ra does not know Do - ra does not know Do - ra does not know

B. Do - ra does not know Do - ra does not know Do - ra does not know

Pno. *pp* *ppp* *ppp*

How She Went To Ireland

24 *f* *mf* *mp* *mf*

S. — was where, yea, I - re - land, Do - ra wished to be When

A. — was where, yea, I - re - land, Do - ra wished to, wished to be: When

T. That was where, yea, I - re - land, Do - ra wished to be:

B. That was where, yea, I - re - land, Do - ra wished to be:

Pno. *mf* *mp*

29 *p* *mp*

S. — she felt, in lone times, Shoots of mi - se - ry, Shoots of mi - se -

A. — she felt, in lone times, Shoots of mi - se - ry, Shoots of mi - se -

T. When she felt, in lone times, Shoots of mi - se - ry, Shoots of mi - se -

B. When she felt, in lone times, lone times, Shoots of mi - se - ry Shoots of mi - se -

Pno. *mf* *mp* *p* *mp*

How She Went To Ireland

S. *mf* *p*
ry, Shoots of mi - se - ry That was where, yea, I - re - land

A. *mf* *p*
ry. Shoots of mi - se - ry That was where, yea, I - re - land

T. *mf* *p*
ry, Shoots of mi - se, mi - se - ry That was, yea, That was

B. *mf* *p*
ry Shoots of mi - se - ry That was, yea, That was

Pno. *mf* *p*

S. *pp* *accel.* *mp*
That was where, yea, I - re - land, Do - ra wished to be: When she, in

A. *pp* *accel.* *mp*
That was where, yea, I - re - land, Do - ra wished to be: When she, in

T. *pp* *accel.* *mf*
That was, yea, I - re - land She wished to wished to be: When she felt,

B. *pp* *accel.* *mf*
That was, yea, I - re - land She wished to, wished to be: When she felt,

Pno. *accel.* *mf*

How She Went To Ireland

44 *mf* *rit.* *f*

S. lone times, Shoots of mi - se - ry, Shoots of mi - se - ry,

A. lone times, Shoots of mi - se - ry, Shoots of mi - se - ry,

T. in lone times, Shoots of mi - se, mi - se - ry, Shoots of mi - se, mi - se - ry,

B. in lone times, Shoots of mi - se, mi - se - ry, Shoots of mi - se, mi - se - ry,

Pno. 44 *rit.* *f*

Tempo I

49 *p* *rit.* *p*

S. Of - ten there, in I - re - land, Do - ra wished to be. Of - ten there, in

A. *p* *rit.* *p*

T. *p* *rit.*

B. *p* *rit.*

Pno. 49 *Tempo I* *rit.* *p*

How She Went To Ireland

54

S. I - re - land, Do - ra wished to be _____ Do - ra wished to

A. I - re - land, Do - ra wished to be

T. *p* in I - re - land, Do - ra wished to be

B. *p* In I - re - land, she wished to be

Pno.

58

S. *p* Hence _____ she's _____ be. _____ Hence she's gone to I - re - land, _____ Since she meant to

A. *p* Hence she's gone to I - re - land, Since she meant to

T. *p* Hence she's gone to I - re - land, Since she meant to

B. *p* Hence she's gone to I - re - land, Since she meant to

Pno. *mf* *f* *Massive*

How She Went To Ireland

62

S. gone to I - re - land
go, Through the drift and dark - ness on - ward la - bouring, though
go, oh, On ward la - bouring, though

A. meant to go, Through the drift and dark - ness On - ward la - bouring, la - bouring, though

T. go, oh, Through the drift and dark - ness On - ward la - bouring, though

B. go, oh, Through the drift and dark - ness On - ward la - bouring, though

Pno.

Slightly Faster

67

S. That she's gone to I - re - land That she's gone to I - re - land

A. That she's gone to I - re - land That she's gone to I - re - land

T. That she's gone to I - re - land That she's gone to I - re - land

B. That she's gone to I - re - land That she's gone to I - re - land

Pno.

Slightly Faster

How She Went To Ireland

Slightly Slower **ff** *A Tempo* **f**

S. That she's gone to I - re - land _____ Do - ra does, Do - ra

A. That she's gone to I - re - land _____ Do - ra does not, Do - ra does,

T. That she's gone to I - re - land _____ Do - ra

B. That she's gone to I - re - land _____

Slightly Slower **ff** *A Tempo* **f**

Pno.

Slightly Slower **ff** *A Tempo* **f**

75 *Tempo I* **mp**

S. does not know. Do - ra's gone to I - re - land _____ Through _

A. does not know _____ Do - ra's gone to I - re - land _____ Through _

T. does not know. _____ Do - ra's gone to I - re - land _____ Through _

B. Do - ra does not know. _____ Do - ra's gone to I - re - land _____

75 *Tempo I* **mp** **mp**

Pno.

How She Went To Ireland

79

S. — the sleet and snow; — Prompt - ly she has gone there In a ship, al - though *p*

A. — the sleet and snow; — Prompt - ly she has gone there In a ship, al - though *p*

T. — the sleet and snow; — Prompt - ly she has gone there In a ship, al - though *p*

B. Through the sleet and snow; — Prompt - ly she has gone there In a ship, a - though *p*

Pno. *mp* *p*

85 *mp* *mf*

Sop. Solo Why — Why —

S. Why she's gone to I - re - land Why she's gone to I - re - land *mp*

A. Why she's gone to I - re - land — Why she's gone to I - re, I - re - land *mf*

T. Why she's gone to I - re, I - re - land Why she's gone to I - re - land *mf* *mp*

B. Why she's gone to I - re - land Why she's gone to I - re - land *mp*

Pno. *mp*

How She Went To Ireland

Sop. Solo

89 *f* *p*

Why _____

S. 89 *mf* *tutti mp*

Why she's gone to I - re, I - re - land Do -

A. *mf* *mp*

Why she's gone to I - re - land Do - ra does not know.

T. *mf* *mp*

Why she's gone to I - re - land Do - ra does not know.

B. *mf* *mp*

Why she's gone to I - re - land Do - ra does not know.

Pno. 89 *mf* *mp*

93 *poco rall.* *p*

S. *poco rall.* *p*

- ra does not know. Do - ra does not know. Mmm.

A. *poco rall.* *p*

Do - ra does not know. Do - ra does not know. Mmm.

T. *poco rall.* *p*

Do - ra does not know. Do - ra does not know. Mmm.

B. *poco rall.* *p*

Do - ra does not know. Do - ra does not know. Mmm.

Pno. 93 *p poco rall.* *pp*

8va