He is Mine

Seán Doherty 2019 SSSAAA a cappella

Seán Doherty Music seandohertymusic.com

SDM114

TEXT

Mary's Song

I wad ha'e gi'en him my lips tae kiss, Had I been his, had I been his; Barley breid and elder wine, Had I been his as he is mine.

The wanderin' bee it seeks the rose;
Tae the lochan's bosom the burnie goes;*
The grey bird cries at evenin's fa',
'My luve, my fair one, come awa'.'

My beloved shall ha'e this he'rt tae break, Reid, reid wine and the barley cake, A he'rt tae break, and a mou' tae kiss, Tho' he be nae mine, as I am his.

Marion Angus (1865–1946)

PROGRAMME NOTE

The poet Marion Angus puts sacred imagery to an extraordinary use in this heart-cry of unrequited love. This is not Mary's song of the Magnificat, but that of a lovesick Highland lassie: the bread and wine of communion that she offers to her beloved are made from local barley and elderberry and she hears the lover's command from the *Song of Songs* to 'come away' in birdsong.

Performance Time: c. 4 mins

*Lochan: a small lake; Burnie: a little stream

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Marion Angus (1865-1946) Seán Doherty (b.1987)









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