

A Flower is a Lovesome Thing

Billy Strayhorn (1915-1967)
transcribed & adapted by Tom Cleary
arranged by Kelvyn Koning (b. 1994)

Eerie ♩ = 70

The musical score is arranged for Soprano Solo, Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and Piano. The key signature is three flats (B-flat major/D-flat minor) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Eerie' with a quarter note equal to 70 beats per minute. The score consists of two systems of music. The first system covers the vocal lines and the beginning of the piano accompaniment. The vocal lines include lyrics: 'A flower is a lovesome thing, a luscious, living, lovesome thing. A'. The piano accompaniment features a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The second system continues the piano accompaniment, with a key signature change to C-flat major (C7#11) indicated above the staff. Dynamics include *mp*, *mf*, and *p*.

5

S. Solo *mf*
 da-f-o-dil, a rose, no mat-ter where it grows, is such a love-ly, love-some thing. A

S. *mp*
 da da da da doo doo doo doo

A. *mp*
 da da da da doo doo doo doo

T. *mp*
 da da da da doo doo doo doo

B. *mp*
 da da da da doo doo doo doo

Pno. *mp*
 B \flat 7 Eb7 A \flat 7(#5) D \flat 7 Gbm7 Eb7 Gbm7 D \flat maj7

9

S. Solo
 flo-wer is the heart of spring that makes the roll-ing hill-side sing. The

S. *p* *mf* *p* *mf*
 ah oh ooh ah

A. *p* *mf* *p* *mf*
 ah oh ooh ah

T. *p* *mf* *p* *mf*
 ah oh ooh ah

B. *p* *mf* *p* *mf*
 ah oh ooh ah

Pno. *p* *mf* *p* *mf*
 C \flat 7(#11)

13

S. Solo

gen-tle winds that blow, blow gen-tly, for they know a flo-wer is a love-some thing.

S. *mp*
da doo da da doo da da da doo da

A. *mp*
da da da da da da doo da

T. *mp*
da da da da da da doo da

B. *mp*
da da da da da da doo da

Pno. *mp*
Eb7 Eb7 Ab7(#5) Db7 Gbm7 Eb7 Dmaj7 Db6

17

S. *f*
Play - ing in the breeze, sway - ing with the trees, ooh in the si-lent

A. *mf*
dum dum dum dum dum dum dum dum ooh

T. *mf*
dum dum dum dum dum dum dum dum ooh

B. *mf*
dmm dmm dmm dmm dmm dmm dmm dmm ooh

Pno. *mf*
Eb7(b5) Ab7(b9) Dbmaj7 Em7(b5) A7(b9) Dmaj7 D9/A G#m7(b5)

22 night or in the morn-ing light, such a mir - a - cle.

S. ah

A. ah

T. ah *mp* A -

B. ah

Pno. *D⁹/A* *A^b7(b⁹)* *Gm⁷(b⁹)* *G^bmaj⁷* *A^b7*

25

S. *pp* ah *mp* ooh *pp* ah

A. *pp* ah *mp* ooh gar - den - ias floating through day - dreams,

T. *pp* 8 za - leas drink - ing pale moon - beams, ah

B. *pp* ah *mp* ooh *pp* ah

Pno. *pp* *C^b7(#11)* *mp* *pp*