



Lovely May

B. C. Unseld
(1843-1923)

S Love - ly May, mer - ry, mer - ry May! Bird - lets now are sing - ing;

A Love - ly May, mer - ry, mer - ry May! Bird - lets now are sing - ing;

T Love - ly May, mer - ry, mer - ry May! Bird - lets now are sing - ing;

B Love - ly May, mer - ry, mer - ry May! Bird - lets now are sing - ing;

5
S Ev - 'ry - where, thro' the balm - y air, Songs of pleas - ure ring!

A Ev - 'ry - where, thro' the balm - y air, Songs of pleas - ure ring!

T Ev - 'ry - where, thro' the balm - y air, Songs of pleas - ure ring!

B Ev - 'ry - where, thro' the balm - y air, Songs of pleas - ure ring!

Lovely May

CHORUS

9

S Wel - come, wel - come, love - ly May, Mer - ry, mer - ry May, mer - ry, mer - ry May;

A Wel - come, wel - come, love - ly May, Mer - ry, mer - ry May, mer - ry, mer - ry May;

T Wel - come, wel - come, love - ly May, Mer - ry, mer - ry May, mer - ry, mer - ry May;

B Wel - come, wel - come, love - ly May, Mer - ry, mer - ry May, mer - ry, mer - ry May;

13

S Wel - come, wel - come love - ly May, Mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry May.

A Wel - come, wel - come love - ly May, Mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry May.

T Wel - come, wel - come love - ly May, Mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry May.

B Wel - come, wel - come love - ly May, Mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry May.

VERSE 2

17

S Hap - py May, mer - ry, mer - ry May! With our songs we greet thee;

A Hap - py May, mer - ry, mer - ry May! With our songs we greet thee;

T Hap - py May, mer - ry, mer - ry May! With our songs we greet thee;

B Hap - py May, mer - ry, mer - ry May! With our songs we greet thee;

Lovely May

21

S On the hill, by the shin - ing rill, Now we wel - come thee.

A On the hill, by the shin - ing rill, Now we wel - come thee.

T On the hill, by the shin - ing rill, Now we wel - come thee.

B On the hill, by the shin - ing rill, Now we wel - come thee.

VERSE 3

25

S Balm - y May, mer - ry, mer - ry May! How we love thy glad - ness;

A Balm - y May, mer - ry, mer - ry May! How we love thy glad - ness;

T Balm - y May, mer - ry, mer - ry May! How we love thy glad - ness;

B Balm - y May, mer - ry, mer - ry May! How we love thy glad - ness;

29

S Buds and flow'rs, thro' the sun - ny hours, Ope their scent - ed leaves.

A Buds and flow'rs, thro' the sun - ny hours, Ope their scent - ed leaves.

T Buds and flow'rs, thro' the sun - ny hours, Ope their scent - ed leaves.

B Buds and flow'rs, thro' the sun - ny hours, Ope their scent - ed leaves.

Benjamin Carl Unseld (1843-1923) was born in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. He left school at age 14 and pursued various commercial jobs. He started to learn music at age 15 from a friend who had attended a singing school. They went to church and practiced together after work. He witnessed part of the Battle of Antietam in 1862 and soon after moved to Columbia, Pennsylvania, and worked as a railroad clerk. He continued to study music, rented a melodeon, and sang in a choir. He accepted a position as organist at the Methodist Church in Columbia. He studied at the Musical Institute at Providence, Rhode Island, under Eben Tourjée and became the Institute's secretary. He followed Tourjée to Boston when Tourjée helped found the New England Conservatory of Music and was the school's first secretary. He also had additional studies with Theo. F. Seward. He later taught at Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, assisting in training the famous Jubilee Singers, and was the first principal of the Virginia Normal School of Music. He was then organist and choirmaster at St. James' Episcopal Church in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and then lived in New York City for fifteen years where he taught, composed, directed choirs, held summer normal schools, edited music and published with the firm Biglow & Main. He later went to Cincinnati, Ohio, as editor with the Fillmore Music House and then to Dayton in a similar capacity with the Lorenz Publishing Company. He then returned to NCY and then moved to Hagerstown, Maryland. In 1911, he moved to Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, as dean of the new James D. Vaughan School of Music. He died in Lawrenceburg. With Seward, he imported John Curwen's Tonic Sol-fa system from England and promoted it, but the method was never widely received in the United States. He wrote many Gospel songs, hymns and secular songs and published a number of volumes for pedagogical use including "The Tonic Sol-Fa Music Reader."

Lovely May, merry, merry May!
Bird-lets now are singing;
Everywhere, through the balmy air,
Songs of pleasure ring!

*Welcome, welcome, lovely May,
Merry, merry, merry, merry May.*

Happy May, merry, merry May!
With our songs we greet thee;
On the hill, by the shining rill,
Now we welcome thee.

Balmy May, merry, merry May!
How we love thy gladness;
Buds and flowers, through the sunny hours,
Ope their scented leaves.

Aldine S. Kieffer (1840-1904)

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