

Mary's Ballad

from *YORK* Act One. Scene Two

The morning of October 13th 1803 at Clark's Point, in Clarksville, Indiana, on the Ohio River, where William Clark lives. The whole town is excited about the arrival of Meriwether Lewis, who will join with his friend, William Clark, and set off from here on their journey West to the Pacific.

But the woman we first meet is Mary, a slave girl who is owed by a friend and neighbor of William Clark.

Mary enters singing about the simple joys of summer.

Adagio con moto $\text{♩} = 66$

Mary *p* languorously

The mock-ing-bird is

Piano *mp cresc.* *mf dim.* *p simile*

Mary *poco cresc.*

hol - ler - in'. The drow - sy ro - ses bloom. The hon - ey - suck - le

Mary *mp port.* *mp*

fills the air with hon - ey's sweet per - fume. Oc -

Piano *mp* *mf*

Mary

15 *p cresc. poco a poco*

to - ber sim - mers like Ju-ly, so hot a girl could faint. And mock-ing - bird sings

15 *mp* *p cresc. poco a poco*

Mary

20 *mf* *mp*

out the song of all the birds she ain't. 'Cause now she's like a

20 *mf* *mp*

Mary

24 *poco rit.* *p* *a tempo*

mour - ning dove and now an o - ri - ole, and now she's hoot - ing

24 *poco rit.* *a tempo* *p*

Mary

28 *cresc.*

through the night just like a great horned owl, just like a great horned

28 *cresc.*

The musical score is written for a voice part (Mary) and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano line. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. Performance markings include dynamics (p, mp, mf), crescendos (cresc.), and tempo changes (poco rit., a tempo). The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand.

Mary *f* owl. *mf* 3 The

Mary *mp* *cresc.* *mf dim.*
drow - sy ro - ses bloom. The hon - ey - suck - le fills the air with

Mary *port.* *poco rit.* *a tempo*
hon - ey's sweet per - fume. Mm.

mf dim. *p* *rit.*