

On Monsieur's Departure

Elizabeth I (1533-1603)

Stephen Potter

This is a setting of two verses from a poem written by Elizabeth I upon the departure of Francis, Duke of Anjou following his courtship with Elizabeth that ran from 1579 - 81. Francis (1555-84) was her last marriage suitor and someone for whom Elizabeth showed great affection. Despite this, Elizabeth eventually recognised that, politically, a marriage to him was not in her, or England's, best interest. So Elizabeth the Queen turned from Elizabeth the woman and Francis departed for home.

Moderato ♩ = 80

mf

I grieve and dare not
gen - tler pas-sion

Moderato ♩ = 80

mp

6

show my dis-con- tent, I love, and yet am forced to seem to hate,
slide in - to my mind For I am soft and made of mel-ting snow

p

10

f

I dote yet dare not what I mean I seem stark mute, but
or be more cruel, love be so kind. Let me, or float, or

f *mf*

14

in-ward-ly do prate. I am and I am not freeze and yet am
sink, be high or low. Or let me live with some more - swe-et con

19

burned, since from my - self my - oth - er self I turn. -
tent. Or die, and so for - get what love e'er meant

22

1. Some 2.