

Dance On My Heart

Words and music by
Allen Koepke

Sprightly ♩=126

1 Sop.
2 Sop.

Alto

Piano

mf

mf

mf

3

- tle - men asked a fair young maid a ques -
- tle - man asked the fair young maid the ques -

- tion: — “What must we do to win your hand and
- tion: — “What must I do to win your hand and

mp

I'm a - dor - ing - ly sweet." (to m. 11, v. 2)
 you'll be sat - is - fied." (to m. 20-21, v. 3)
 say you'll be my wife." (to m. 20-21, v. 5)

mp

mf

21 *mf*

3: "Well" she re - plied, "I'd make my se - lec - tion, and you'd re - ceive my
 5: "Sir," she re - plied, "you are my se - lec - tion, and you'll re - ceive my

mf

love and af - fec - tion if you danced on my heart,
 love and af - fec - tion for you dance on my heart,

27 *f* *a bit slower*
mp
 if and you sang to my soul. But a - las, my heart is not
 and you sing to my (v. 5 to coda m. 37)

mf *a bit slower*
mp
 pound - ing, and your songs are not sound - ing. N.B.

cresc. *mf* *dim.*

33 *a tempo*
mp *DS al* \oplus
 > There - fore, I can - not mar - ry you." (to m. 3, v.4.)
a tempo *DS al* \oplus

mp a tempo *mf* *DS al* \oplus

37

Coda

soul. I'll take your hand, wear your wedding band.

42

Yes, kind sir, I will marry you!"

mp

8va

About the composer *and* the poet

Allen Koepke (b. 1939) has been active as a choral conductor and composer in Iowa for the past thirty-seven years. A graduate of Luther College, Decorah, Iowa with an M.A. from the University of Northern Iowa, Allen is Professor Emeritus of Choral Music at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids where he was awarded the “1996 Iowa Professor of the Year” by the Carnegie Institute. He currently spends much of his time as a clinician, adjudicator and composer. He has over sixty published compositions. *Dance On My Heart* was the winner of the 1991 Iowa Choral Directors’ Association Composition Contest.

Notes on performance

Dance On My Heart is a fusion of madrigal and contemporary styles. The piece should be performed with the spirit of a light-hearted madrigal. Careful diction is a must so that the audience can enjoy the story. The 7/8 measures should be felt as 3/8 + 4/8 with the downbeats on one and four receiving their own natural accents.

Dance On My Heart

Once two handsome gentlemen asked a fair young maid a question:
“What must we do to win your hand and gain your kind affection?”
One said he was “stronger by far” than any other man that she’d meet.
Also being braver than most, said, “Please marry me, I’m adoringly sweet.”

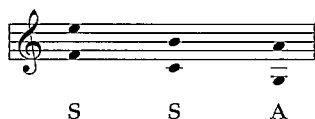
Then, said the other, “What if I give you diamonds and pearls, would you be my bride?
I can offer power and riches. All through your life you’ll be satisfied.”

“Well,” she replied, “I’d make my selection,
and you’d receive my love and affection
if you danced on my heart, if you sang to my soul.
But alas, my heart is not pounding
and your songs are not sounding.
Therefore, I cannot marry you.”

Then a kindly gentleman asked the fair young maid the question:
“What must I do to win your hand and gain your kind affection?
I can only promise to love you, be at your side through all of my life.
I will be your faithful companion. Come take my hand, say you’ll be my wife.”

“Sir,” she replied, “you are my selection,
and you’ll receive my love and affection
for you dance on my heart, and you sing to my soul.
I’ll take your hand,
wear your wedding band.
Yes, kind sir, I will marry you!”

Range



Listen to a recording at www.sbmp.com
Performed by Girls 21, Cherry Creek High School
Charlotte Adams, conductor