

LA NIÑA DE GUATEMALA (THE GIRL FROM GUATEMALA)

for Medium Voice and Piano
Poem by JOSÉ MARTÍ (1853-1895)

Andante mesto e rubato ♩ = 94 circa

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The musical score is written for a medium voice and piano. It begins with a tempo and mood marking of 'Andante mesto e rubato' and a tempo of approximately 94 beats per minute. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is common time (C). The score is divided into three systems. The first system (measures 1-4) shows the piano accompaniment with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. The piano part features a steady eighth-note bass line and a treble part with chords and triplets. The voice part is silent in this system. The second system (measures 5-9) continues the piano accompaniment, with a dynamic change to piano (p) and the inclusion of a 'dim.' (diminuendo) marking. The voice part remains silent. The third system (measures 10-13) features the vocal line with lyrics. The lyrics are: 'Quie-ro, a la som-bra de un a - la, con-tar es-te cuen - to en flor: La ni-ña de Gua-te-ma-la, la que se mu-rió de a-'. The piano accompaniment continues with various dynamics and includes fingering numbers (4, 2, 1, 5, 5) for the right hand.

rit. *a tempo*

mor. E - ran de li-rios los ra - mos,

y las or-las de re - se-da y de jaz-mín; la en - te -

rra-mos en u-na ca - ja de se-da.

cresc.

f ...E - lla dio al des-me-mo - ria-do u-na al-moha-di-lla de o - lor;

él vol-vió, vol-vió ca - sa-do; e-lla se mu-rió de a - mor.

34

I - ban car-gán-do-la en an-das o-bis-pos y em-ba-ja - do-res;

38

de-trás i-ba el pue-blo en tan-das, to-do car-ga-do de flo-res.

42

mf

47

dim.

51

p

...E - lla, por vol-ver-lo a ver, sa-lió a ver-lo al mi - ra - dor:

él vol-vió con su mu- jer; e-lla se mu-rió de a - mor.

rit.

Co - mo de bron-ce can - den - te al be - so de des-pe -

a tempo

a tempo

di - da e-ra su fren - te ¡la fren-te

que más he a - ma - do en mi vi - da! ...Se en - tró de tar-de en el

f

cresc.

rí - o, la sa - có muer - ta el doc - tor; di - cen que mu - rió de

72

frí-o: yo sé que mu-rió de a-mor. A - llí, en la bó-ve-da he-

76

la - da, la pu-sie-ron en dos ban-cos; be - sé su-ma-no a - fi -

80

la - da, be-sésus za - pa - tos blan-cos. Ca-lla-do, al obs-cu - re -

84

cer, me lla-mó el en-te-rra - dor. ¡Nun - ca más he vuel-to a

88

ver a la que mu - rió de a-mor!

La Niña de Guatemala

JOSÉ MARTÍ
(1853-1895)

Quiero, a la sombra de un ala,
contar este cuento en flor:
La niña de Guatemala,
la que se murió de amor.

Eran de lirio los ramos,
y las orlas de reseda
y de jazmín; la enterramos
en una caja de seda.

...Ella dio al desmemoriado
una almohadilla de olor;
él volvió, volvió casado;
ella se murió de amor.

Iban cargándola en andas
obispos y embajadores;
detrás iba el pueblo en tandas,
todo cargado de flores.

...Ella, por volverlo a ver,
salió a verlo al mirador:
él volvió con su mujer;
ella se murió de amor.

Como de bronce candente
al beso de despedida
era su frente ¡la frente
que más he amado en mi vida!

...Se entró de tarde en el río,
la sacó muerta el doctor;
dicen que murió de frío:
yo sé que murió de amor.

Allí, en la bóveda helada,
la pusieron en dos bancos;
besé su mano afilada,
besé sus zapatos blancos.

Callado, al obscurecer,
me llamó el enterrador.
¡Nunca más he vuelto a ver
a la que murió de amor!

The Girl from Guatemala

JOSÉ MARTÍ
(1853-1895)

At a wing's shade,
I want to tell this story, like a flower:
The girl from Guatemala,
the girl that died of love.

5 The flowers were lilies,
and mignonette ornaments
and jasmine; we buried her
in a silk casket.

9 ...She gave to the forgetful
a perfumed sachet:
he came back, came back married;
she died of love.

13 She was carried in a procession
by bishops and ambassadors;
behind were the town's people in groups
they were all carrying flowers.

17 ...She, wanted to see him again,
she stepped out to the balcony:
he came back with his wife;
she died of love.

21 Like ardent bronze,
when he kissed her goodbye,
her forehead was the forehead
that I have loved the most in my life!

25 ...She went into the river at dusk,
she was dead when the doctor pulled her out:
some say she died of coldness:
but I know she died of love.

29 There, in the chilling crypt,
they set her on two benches:
I kissed her slender hand,
I kissed her white shoes.

33 Silently, when it grew dark,
the undertaker called me:
I have never again seen
the girl who died of love!