

Juliet (for soprano, violin, organ, and bells)
Texts by William Shakespeare

1. My only love sprung from my only hate!
Too early seen unknown, and known too late!
Prodigious birth of love it is to me
That I must love a loathéd enemy.

2. O serpent heart hid with a flow'ring face!
Did ever dragon keep so fair a cave?
Beautiful tyrant, fiend angelical!
Dove-feathered raven, wolvish-ravening lamb!
Despiséd substance of divinest show!
Just opposite to what thou justly seem'st,
A damnéd saint, an honorable villain.
O nature, what hadst thou to do in hell
When thou didst bower the spirit of a fiend
In mortal paradise of such sweet flesh?
Was ever book containing such vile matter
So fairly bound? O, that deceit should dwell
In such a gorgeous palace!

3. My bounty is as boundless as the sea,
My love as deep. The more I give to thee,
The more I have, for both are infinite.

4. Come, night. Come, Romeo. Come, thou day in night,
For thou wilt lie upon the wings of night
Whiter than new snow upon a raven's back.
Come, gentle night; come, loving black-browed night,
Give me my Romeo, and when he shall die,
Take him and cut him out in little stars,
And he will make the face of heaven so fine
That all the world will be in love with night
And pay no worship to the garish sun.

5. What's here? A cup closed in my true love's hand?

Poison, I see, hath been his timeless end,-

O churl, drunk all, and left no friendly drop

To help me after! I will kiss thy lips.

Haply some poison yet doth hang on them,

To make me die with a restorative.

Thy lips are warm.

O, happy dagger,

This is thy sheath. There rust, and let me die.