

My Love She's But A Lassie Yet

TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH (BURNS) ARR. HUGH LEVEY





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My Love She's But a Lassie Yet was written by celebrated Scottish poet Robert Burns in the 1780s. In it he tells the story of his love for a young woman ('Lassie' in Scots), and how he regrets the day he met her. It is a lively and humorous song, which also pokes fun at authority in a way that is typical of Burns. The last verse contains the words; 'The minister kiss'd the fiddler's wife preach for thinking o'ti'

Also typical of Burns, is that he set the words to an existing tune, which appears in various collections as Lady Badinscoth's Reel. Popular tunes, dances and songs were often known widely both in Scotland and in the neighbouring counties of northern England, so it can be very difficult to identify where they originated. Indeed, a 1770 manuscript collection by Northumbrian musician William Vickers contains the same tune and even names it, "My Lover's Butt a Lady Yett", predating the famous Burns poem by nearly 20 years.

This lively piece for Wind Quintet starts off with a stately 'classical' arrangement of My Love She's But a Lassie Yet, but as it develops the tune combines with another traditional melody (The Sailor's Hompipe), followed by some operatic quotations from the Magic Flute, and even a five part fugue. It ends with an embellished restatement of the opening. It is great fun for all players.

Duration: 2' 35"

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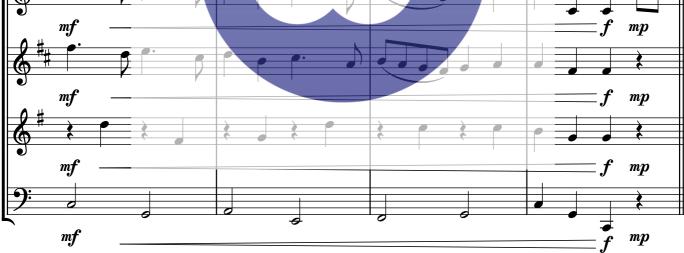
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My Love She's But a Lassie Yet Lady Badinscoth's Reel Trad. Scottish (arr. Hugh Levey)

Robert Burns











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