Who is Silvia

Words by William Shakespeare

Music by Jon Corelis
2019 1:37
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Image: Who is Sylvia? What is She, That All the Swains Commend Her by Edwin Austin Abbey
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Who is Silva?

What is she?

That all our swains commend her?
Holy, fair, and wise is she; the heav'n such grace did lend her, that she might admired be.
Is she kind as she is fair? For beauty lives with kindness: Love doth to her...
eyes _ re_ pair, to help him of his blind - ness;

and being helped, in - hab - its there.
Then to Sil via

let us sing, that Sil via is excelling;
She excels each mortal thing upon the dull earth

dwelling: to her let us garlands bring.
The lyrics:

Who is Silvia? What is she?
That all our swains commend her?
Holy, fair, and wise is she;
the heav'n such grace did lend her,
that she might admired be.

Is she kind as she is fair?
For beauty lives with kindness:
Love doth to her eyes repair,
to help him of his blindness;
and being helped, inhabits there.

Then to Silvia let us sing,
that Silvia is excelling;
she excels each mortal thing
upon the dull earth dwelling:
to her let us garlands bring.
ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Jon Corelis was born in California and grew up in and around Chicago, where he earned a degree in Classical Languages and Literatures at the College of the University of Chicago. He later took a doctorate in Classics at Stanford, and taught Classics and Humanities at Stanford, the University of California, and the University of Minnesota. After a subsequent career as a software specialist in Silicon Valley, he now lives in Wisconsin. His poetry and other writings have been published in print and on web sites in eight countries, and he has given lectures and readings by invitation in America and Europe.

He more recently has turned to composing songs and instrumental pieces. His music has been featured on the web site The Flexible Persona, has been performed in concert by the Wisconsin ensemble a very small consortium, by the New York State flute quartet Party of Four, and at Denison University's TUTTI 2019 Festival, and has been recorded by flutist Robin Meiksins for her YouTube recording project 365 Days of Flute, and by clarinetist Emily Mehig for her YouTube recording project The Miniature Month of May.