

The Bourne *for soprano and harp*

Nicola LeFanu

The Bourne

Underneath the growing grass,
Underneath the living flowers,
Deeper than the sound of showers:
There we shall not count the hours
By the shadows as they pass.

Youth and health will be but vain,
Beauty reckoned of no worth:
There a very little girth
Can hold round what once the earth
Seemed too narrow to contain.

Christina Rossetti

This song was commissioned by NMC recordings for The NMC Songbook, a disc celebrating their twentieth anniversary in 2008.

Performance note for harpist: the designation 'koto' indicates a wide vibrato; press and release the string above the forks. Harmonics sound an octave higher than written.

Duration: c.2'30"

NL.