

I Cannot Dance, O Lord

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Mechtild of Magdeburg
translated by Jane Hirshfield

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Adagio ♩ = 56

The musical score is arranged in a standard choral format. It includes a Solo part in the bass clef, and vocal parts for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. The piano accompaniment is shown in grand staff notation. The tempo is marked 'Adagio' with a quarter note equal to 56 beats per minute. The dynamics are marked 'ff' (fortissimo) for the vocal and piano parts. The lyrics 'I, I, I, I' are written under the vocal lines. A large, semi-transparent watermark 'For perusal only. Please do not photocopy.' is overlaid on the score.

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I can-not, can-not, can-not, can-not dance, O Lord,

can-not,

can-not,

can-not,

can-not,

piano possibile

Oh,

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9

I, can-not, can-not,
 I, can-not, can-not,
 I, can-not, can-not,
 I, can-not, can-not,

ff
mf

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A ♩ = 52

14

can-not, can-not, can - not dance, O Lord, O

mp

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19

Lord,

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24

B

mp
I can - not dance, O Lord,

mp
I can - not dance, O Lord,

mp
I can - not dance, O

mp
I can - not dance, O

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33

I can - not dance un - less you lead me,

I can - not dance un - less you lead me,

8 Lord,

Lord,

33

37

lead me, *mp* rit. lead me,

lead me, *mp* lead me,

8 *mp* lead me,

lead me,

mp lead me,

mp lead me,

37

mp rit. lead me,

lead me,

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C ♩ = 250

41 *mf* lead me, — lead me, O Lord,

mf lead me, — lead me, O Lord,

8 *mf* lead me, — lead me, O Lord,

mf lead me, — lead me, O Lord,

41 *f* ♩ = 250

45 *p* I can-not dance, O Lord, I can-not dance, I can-not dance, O Lord, un-less you lead me,

p I can-not dance, O Lord, I can-not dance, I can-not dance, O Lord, un-less you lead me,

8

45 *p*

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49 *mp*

I can-not dance, O Lord, I can-not dance, I can-not dance, O Lord, un-less you lead me,

mp

I can-not dance, O Lord, I can-not dance, I can-not dance, O Lord, un-less you lead me,

mp

I can - not dance, O Lord,

49

mp

53 *mf*

I can-not dance, O Lord, I can-not dance, I can-not dance, O Lord, un-less you lead me,

mf

I can-not dance, O Lord, I can-not dance, I can-not dance, O Lord, un-less you lead me,

mf

I can - not dance, O Lord,

mf

I can not dance, O Lord,

53

mf

f
Ah

57

I can-not dance, O Lord, I can-not dance, I can-not dance, O Lord, un-less you lead me,

f

I can-not dance, O Lord, I can-not dance, I can-not dance, O Lord, un-less you lead me,

f

I can - not dance, O Lord,

f

I can - not dance, O Lord,

57

f

D

If you wish me to leap joy-ful-ly, let me see you dance, If you wish me to leap

If you wish me to leap joy-ful-ly, let me see you dance, If you wish me to leap

fp

Dance, If you wish me to leap

fp

Dance, dance,

65 *cresc.*

joy-ful - ly, let me see you dance, Let me see you dance joy-ful - ly,

cresc.

joy-ful - ly, let me see you dance, Let me see you dance joy-ful - ly,

cresc.

joy-ful - ly, let me see you dance, Let me see you dance joy-ful - ly,

fp

I can-not dance,

65

69 *molto rit.*

see you dance and sing, Then I will leap in - to

ff *a tempo*

see you dance and sing, Then I will leap in - to

ff

see you dance and sing, Then I will leap to

ff

dance and sing, Then I will leap to

ff *a tempo*

69 *molto rit.*

ff *a tempo*

72

Love and from Love in - to Know - ledge, from

Love and from Love in - to Know - ledge, from

8 Love, Love to Know ledge,

Love, Love to Know ledge,

72

75 *mf*

mf Know - ledge in - to the Har - vest,

mf Know - ledge in - to the Har - vest,

mf Know - ledge in - to the Har - vest,

mf Know ledge in - to the Har - vest,

75

78 *mp*
 That sweet - est Fruit be - yond all
 That sweet - est Fruit be - yond all
 8 *mp*
 That sweet - est Fruit be - yond all
 That sweet - est Fruit be - yond all

78 *mp*

82 *mp rit.*
 hu - man sense. There, I will stay with
 hu - an sense. Stay,
 hu - man sense. Stay,
 hu - man sense. Stay,

82 *mp p*

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86

you, stay, _____

_____ stay, _____

_____ stay, _____

mp I will stay with you, with you, _____

86

8

8

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92

S1
whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing,

S2
whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing,

A1
whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing,

A2
whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing,

T
whirl - ing, whirl - ing,

B
whirl - ing, whirl - ing,



The piano accompaniment consists of two staves. The right hand plays chords in a rhythmic pattern, while the left hand provides a bass line with sustained notes and some movement.

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94 *mp*

S1 whirl - ing, whirl - ing,

S2 *mp* whirl - ing, whirl -

A1 *mp* whirl - ing, whirl - ing,

A2 *mp* whirl - ing, whirl -

T *mf* There, I will stay with you,

B *mf* There, I will stay with you,

94 *mf*

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96

S1
whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing,

S2
ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing,

A1
whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing,

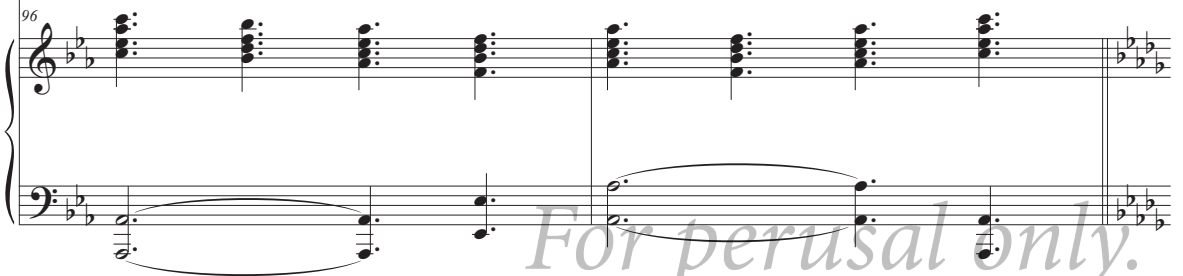
A2
ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing,

T
8 whirl-ing,

B
whirl-ing,



96



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98

S1
whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing,

S2
whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing,

A1
whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing,

A2
whirl - ing, whirl - ing, whirl - ing,

T
8 there, I will stay, will leap, to

B
there, I will stay, will leap, to

98

mf

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f

S Lead me in - to

A Lead me in - to

T Love, in - to

B Love, in - to

100

f *molto rit.* *ff*

S leap - ing, whirl - ing, joy - ful - ly, joy - ful - ly Dance. _____

A leap - ing, whirl - ing, joy - ful - ly, joy - ful - ly Dance. _____

T Love, Dance. _____

B Love, Dance. _____

102

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