

## HYMEN, HASTE! THY TORCH PREPARE!

From "Semele" (1743)

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Allegro (♩ = 152)

PIANO

The piano introduction consists of two systems of music. The first system features a treble clef with a key signature of two flats and a 6/8 time signature. It begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic and contains several chords and melodic lines. The bass clef part provides a steady accompaniment. The second system continues the piece with more complex melodic figures in the treble, including a triplet of eighth notes, and continues the bass accompaniment.

♩ CONTRALTO

The contralto vocal line begins with the lyrics "Hy-men, haste! Hymen, haste! thy torch prepare!". The piano accompaniment is marked with dynamics *p* and *f*. The system concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs.

The contralto vocal line continues with the lyrics "Love al-read-y his has lighted, thy torch prepare, thy". The piano accompaniment continues with dynamics *p*, *f*, and *p*. The system concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs.

torch— pre—pare! Love al-read - y his has light - -

*f* *p*

This system contains the first two measures of the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with the lyrics 'torch— pre—pare!' followed by a rest, then 'Love al-read - y his has light - -'. The piano accompaniment features a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, with dynamic markings *f* and *p*.

- ed,

This system contains the next two measures of the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line continues with the lyrics '- ed,'. The piano accompaniment continues with the same melodic and bass lines.

Love al-ready his has light - ed,

*f*

This system contains the next two measures of the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line continues with the lyrics 'Love al-ready his has light - ed,'. The piano accompaniment continues with the same melodic and bass lines, with a dynamic marking of *f*.

This system contains the final two measures of the piano accompaniment. The vocal line is silent, indicated by whole rests on the staff. The piano accompaniment continues with the same melodic and bass lines.

Haste, haste, Hy-men, haste! Hy - men, haste! thy torch pre - pare!

*p*

Love al - read - y his has lighted.

*f*

Thy torch - prepare, Hy - men, haste! thy torch - pre - pare!

*p*

Love al - read - y his has light -

- ed, Love al-ready his

Adagio

has light-ed, Love al-read-y his has light-ed.

colla voce f

Tempo I

f

Fine

f

5 4 3 5

Fine

One soft sigh has cured despair, One soft sigh has cured despair,

*p*

And more than my past pains re - quit -

- ed, And

more than my past pains re - quit - ed.

*Dal Segno*  $\text{S}$

*Dal Segno*  $\text{S}$