

## Sapphische Ode<sup>1</sup> ['za.fɪ.ʃə 'o:.də] (Sappho's Ode)

Text by *Hans Schmidt* (1856-1923)

Set by *Johannes Brahms* (1833-1897), Op. 94, #4

<b>Rosen</b>	<b>brach</b>	<b>ich</b>	<b>nachts</b>	<b>mir</b>	<b>am</b>	<b>dunklen</b>	<b>Hage;</b>
[ <i>'ro:.zən</i>	<i>bra:x</i>	<i>?ɪç</i>	<i>naxts</i>	<i>mi:ɛ</i>	<i>?am</i>	<i>'dʊŋk.lən</i>	<i>'ha:.gə]</i>
Roses	picked	I	at-night	for-me	from-the	dark	hedge;

(*I picked roses at night from the dark hedge;*)

<b>süsser</b>	<b>hauchten</b>	<b>Duft</b>	<b>sie</b>	<b>als</b>	<b>je</b>	<b>am</b>	<b>Tage;</b>
[ <i>'zy:.se</i>	<i>'ha:ox.tən</i>	<i>duft</i>	<i>zi:</i>	<i>?als</i>	<i>je:</i>	<i>?am</i>	<i>'ta:.gə]</i>
sweeter	breathed	fragrance	they	than	ever	by	day;

(*the fragrance they breathed was sweeter than by day;*)

doch verstreuten reich die bewegten Äste

Tau, der mich nässte.

Auch der Küsse Duft mich wie nie berückte,  
die ich nachts vom Strauch deiner Lippen pflückte:  
doch auch dir, bewegt im Gemüt gleich jenen,  
tauten die Tränen.

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The entire text to this title with the complete  
IPA transcription and translation is available for download.

*Thank you!*



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<sup>1</sup> Sappho (7th century BC) was a Greek poetess who invented the verse form known as Sapphics, a four-line stanza in which the first three lines are each 11 syllables long and the fourth is 5 syllables long.