

When a Merry Maiden Marries

Tessa's air with chorus from *Gondoliers; or, The King of Barataria* (mezzo-soprano)

Text by *Sir William Schwenck Gilbert* (1839-1911) [Br]

Set by *Sir Arthur Seymour Sullivan* (1842-1900) [Br]

Tess

When a merry maiden marries,
[ˌmɛn ʌ 'mɛr.i 'meɪ̯.dən 'mæ(ɛ)r.iz]

Sorrow goes and pleasure tarries;
['sɔr.o:ʊ go:ʊz ænd 'pleʒ.ə 'tæ(ɛ)r.iz]

Ev'ry sound becomes a song,
All is right, and nothing's wrong!
From to-day and ever after
Let our tears be tears of laughter.
Ev'ry sigh that finds a vent
Be a sigh of sweet content!
When you marry, merry maiden,
Then the air with love is laden;
Ev'ry flow'r is a rose,
Ev'ry goose becomes a swan,
Ev'ry kind of trouble goes
Where the last year's snows have gone!

Chorus

Sunlight takes the place of shade
When you marry, merry maid!

Tess

When a merry maiden marries,
Sorrow goes and pleasure tarries;
Ev'ry sound becomes a song...

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

Thank you!

