

Love Bade Me Welcome

Text by *George Herbert* (1593-1633) [Br]

Set by *Sir Arthur Edward Drummond Bliss* (1891-1975) [Br], *Love*, from *Shield of Faith*, F. 52, #3; *Ralph Vaughan Williams* (1872-1958), from *Five Mystical Songs*, #3

Love **bade** **me** **welcome:** **yet** **my** **soul** **drew** **back,**
[lʌv be:ɪd mi 'wel.kəm jət ma:ɪ so:ʊl dɹu bæk]

Guilty **of** **dust** **and** **sin.**
['ɡɪl.ti ɒv dʌst ænd sɪn]

But quick-ey'd Love, observing me grow slack
From my first entrance in,
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning,
If I lack'd anything.

A guest, I answer'd, worthy to be here:
Love said, You shall be he.
I the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear,
I cannot look on thee.
Love took my hand, and smiling did reply,
Who made the eyes but I?

Truth, Lord, but I have marr'd them: let my shame
Go where it doth deserve.
And know you not, says Love, who bore the blame?
My dear, then I will serve.
You must sit down, says Love, and taste my meat:
So I did sit and eat.

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

Thank you!

