

THE STORY OF THE ROSE

(HEART OF MY HEART)

1899

The true identity of "Alice" remains a mystery, and little more is known about the composer, Andrew Mack, except that he was an Irish tenor and actor in New York City. The chorus of the song, also known as "Heart Of My Heart," is practically an anthem for barbershop singers. Our version includes the seldom heard verses, which tell the pretty love story in metaphorical terms, a lyric device which enjoyed some favor in the 1890s and early 1900s. The song was immortalized in 1926 by one of the few songs that contains a song title within its title, "The Gang That Sang 'Heart Of My Heart' ," another favorite among four-part harmonizers.

Words by "ALICE"
(-)

Music by ANDREW MACK
(1863-1931)

VERSE 1:

The musical score for Verse 1 is presented in two systems. Each system consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 3/4. The first system covers measures 1 through 5, with lyrics: "A youth one day in a gar - den fair — a rose found". The second system covers measures 6 through 10, with lyrics: "with - ered and dy - ing, And all for love, ah!". Measure numbers 1 through 10 are indicated above the vocal line. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

11 12 13 14 15 16

love in vain, This rose was sad - ly sigh - ing.

CHORUS 1:

17 18 19 20 21

Heart of my heart, I love you, Life would be

22 23 24 25 26 27

naught with - out you. Light of my life, my dar -

28 29 30 31 32 33

ling, I love you, I love you. I can for -

34 35 36 37 38 39

get you nev - er, From you I ne'er can sev -

40 41 42 43 44 45

er. Oh, say you'll be mine for - ev - er; I

VERSE 2:

46 47 48 49 50 51

love you, I do. Oh, sweet wild rose of a sum - mer

52 53 54 55 56 57

day, — thy love has all been in vain. in vain. Loved by a

58 59 60 61 62

maid, then cast a - way, I e - cho thy re -

CHORUS 2:

63 64 65 66 67 68

frain. Heart of my heart, I love you,
re - frain.

69 70 71 72 73 74

Life would be naught with - out you. Light of my life, my

75 76 77 78 79 80

dar - ling, I love you, I love you.

81 82 83 84 85 86

I can for - get you nev - er, From you I ne'er can

87 88 89 90 91 92

sev - er. Oh, say you'll be mine for - ev - er;

93 94 95 96 97 98

I love you.