

John Keats (1795-1821)

2 *Song*

(From Extracts from an Opera)

I.

The stranger lighted from his steed,  
And ere he spake a word,  
He seiz'd my lady's lilly hand,  
And kiss'd it all unheard.

II.

The stranger walk'd into the hall, 5  
And ere he spake a word,  
He kiss'd my lady's cherry lips,  
And kiss'd 'em all unheard.

III.

The stranger walk'd into the bower, —  
But my lady first did go, — 10  
Aye hand in hand into the bower,  
Where my lord's roses blow.

IV.

My lady's maid had a silken scarf,  
And a golden ring had she,  
And a kiss from the stranger, as off he went 15  
Again on his fair palfrey.

*c. 1818*

(From *The Poetical Works of John Keats*. With an  
Introduction and Textual Notes by H. Buxton Forman.  
Oxford, 1922)