

Black Is the Color

Many American folk songs, particularly those sung for generations in the southern Appalachian region, such as the wistful "Black Is the Color," have a marked kinship with the love songs of Elizabethan England.

American Folk Song

Slow ballad

p in the style of a harp

Black, black, Black Is The Col-or of my true love's

hair; Her lips— are some-thing won-drous fair; The— blu-est— eyes and the

dain-ti-est— hands; I love— the grass on where she stands.

(Organ: omit pedal)

The musical score is presented in three systems. Each system consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The piano accompaniment is written in a style that suggests harp-like playing, with wavy lines indicating tremolos. Chord diagrams for guitar are provided above the vocal line for each measure. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C).

System 1: Chords: Em, A, Em, Bm7. Lyrics: "Black, black, Black Is The Col-or of my true love's".

System 2: Chords: Em, A, Em, Cmaj7, A, Am, Em, D. Lyrics: "hair; Her lips— are some-thing won-drous fair; The— blu-est— eyes and the".

System 3: Chords: C, Am, Em, Cmaj7, Am, Em. Lyrics: "dain-ti-est— hands; I love— the grass on where she stands.".