

ACT II

Scene: Ko-Ko's Garden. Yum-Yum discovered seated at her boudoir table, surrounded by maidens, who are dressing her hair and painting her face and lips, as she judges the effect in a mirror.

No. 12. "Braid the raven hair"

Opening Chorus and Solo

Pitti-Sing and Girls

Allegretto grazioso (♩=72)

p dolce

The musical score consists of five systems of piano accompaniment. Each system has a treble and bass clef staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 2/4. The tempo is marked 'Allegretto grazioso' with a quarter note equal to 72 beats per minute. The first system includes the instruction 'p dolce'. The score features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes in the treble clef, and dense chordal textures in the bass clef. A 'Curtain' marking is placed above the fourth system.

Curtain

Chorus
SOPRANO I

Braid the ra - ven

SOPRANO II

Braid the ra - ven

hair-Weave the sup - ple tress- Deck the maid - en fair In her

hair-Weave the sup - ple tress- Deck the maid - en fair In her

love - li - ness- Paint the pret - ty face-Dye the cor - al lip-

love - li - ness- Paint the pret - ty face-Dye the cor - al lip-

Em - pha-size the grace Of her la - dy - ship! Art and na - ture,

Em - pha-size the grace Of her la - dy - ship! Art and na - ture,

thus al - lied, — Go to make a pret - ty bride, — Art and na - ture, thus al -

thus al - lied, — Go to make a pret - ty bride, Art and na - ture, thus al -

lied, Go to make a — pret - ty bride.

lied, Go to make a — pret - ty bride.

Pitti-Sing

Sit with down-cast eye— Let it brim with dew— Try if you can

cry— We will do so, too. When you're sum-moned, start

Like a fright-ened roe— Flut-ter, lit-tle heart,

Col-our, come and go! Mod-es - ty at mar-riage - tide—

Well be - comes a pret - ty bride, — Mod - es - ty at mar - riage - tide Well be -

comes a — pret - ty bride.

Braid the ra - ven hair - Weave the sup - ple tress - Deck the maid - en fair In her
Braid the ra - ven hair - Weave the sup - ple tress - Deck the maid - en fair In her

love - li - ness - Paint the pret - ty face - Dye the cor - al lip -
love - li - ness - Paint the pret - ty face - Dye the cor - al lip -

Em-pha-size the grace Of her la - dy - ship! Art and na - ture,
Em-pha-size the grace Of her la - dy - ship! Art and na - ture,

thus al - lied, - Go to make a pret - ty bride, - Art and na - ture, thus al -
thus al - lied, - Go to make a pret - ty bride, Art and na - ture, thus al -

lied, Go to make a - pret - ty bride.
lied, Go to make a - pret - ty bride.

(Exeunt Pitti-Sing, Peep-Bo, and Chorus.)

Yum: Yes, I am indeed beautiful! Sometimes I sit and wonder, in my artless Japanese way, why it is that I am so much more attractive than anybody else in the whole world. Can this be vanity? No! Nature is lovely and rejoices in her loveliness. I am a child of Nature, and take after my mother.