

Rose of Tralee

The words of the song are credited to Edward Mordaunt Spencer and the music to Charles William Glover, but a story has circulated that the song was written by William Pembroke Mulchinock, out of love for Mary O'Connor, a poor maid in service to his family.



G G7 C G
The pale moon was rising above the green mountain,
D G A7 D
the sun was declining beneath the blue sea,
G G7 C G
when I strayed with my love o'er the pure crystal fountain
D G C G
that stands in the beautiful vale of Tralee.

[CHORUS]

Em B7 Em C C7 B7
She was lovely and fair as the rose of the summer,
Em Am Em B7 Em B7 Em
yet t'was not her beauty alone that won me.
D G G7 C G
Oh no, t'was the truth in her eyes ever dawning
D G C G D7 G -D7-G
that made me love Mary, the rose of Tralee.

G G7 C G
The cool shades of evening their mantle were spreading,
D G A7 D
and Mary all smiling was listening to me,
G G7 C G
the moon through the valley her pale rays was shedding,
D G C G C G
when I won the heart of the rose of Tralee.

[CHORUS]

Em B7 Em C C7 B7
Though lovely and fair as the rose of the summer,
Em Am Em B7 Em B7 Em
yet t'was not her beauty alone that won me.
D G G7 C G
Oh no, t'was the truth in her eyes ever dawning
D G C G D7 G
that made me love Mary, the rose of Tralee