



Dante Gabriel Rossetti (British, 1828-1882)

The Day Dream
Painting Date: 1880
Medium: Oil on canvas
Size: 159 x 93 cm

Location: Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England

This painting was commissioned by Constantine Ionides. Rossetti painted it from an earlier drawing of Jane Morris sitting in a tree at Kelmscott Manor, as she had, by 1880, ceased posing regularly for him.

In this painting, Jane Morris is sitting in the boughs of a sycamore tree and, dreaming, ignores the book in her lap. The picture was also titled 'Monna Primavera', signifying the spring setting on which Rossetti was determined. He had great difficulty deciding the most appropriate flowers for the season and had to reject Jane's suggestion of snowdrops, which he thought too modest a flower, because they were unobtainable by the time he came to paint them. He eventually chose wild honeysuckle as 'it seems to be longer in bloom all year round than anything else'. Behind this apparently rational decision there may lie a deeper reason, as Rossetti certainly associated honeysuckle with sexual symbolism. In a letter to Jane during the painting of 'The Day Dream', he expressed his sorrow that the foot was painted from another model.

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The Day Dream

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Guilherme Bernstein Avon, CT, Fevereiro/Março 1996

1. Sudden Light



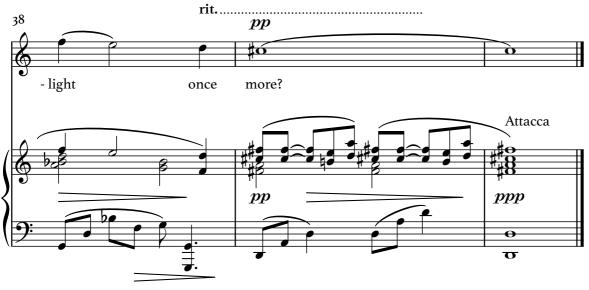


Sudden Light 3





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2. Song & Music



Song & Music 5





Song & Music 7



