

56 Allnächtlich im Traume, no. 4 of *Sechs Gesänge*, op. 86, published 1850.

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847), one of the most precious and accomplished of Romantic composers, was well acquainted with Heine before the poet moved to Paris in 1831. The poet was a frequent visitor at the Mendelssohn household, and both Felix and his sister Fanny set several of his texts to music. At one time Heine also had his eye on another of Mendelssohn's sisters.

Sung in German; English translation by Charles G. Leland, *The works of Heinrich Heine* (New York, 1900).

Other settings of this poem: 28

Allnächtlich im Traume seh ich dich,
Und sehe dich freundlich grüßen,
Und lautaufweinend stürz ich mich
Zu deinen süßen Füßen.

Du siehst mich an wehmütiglich,
Und schüttelst das Blonde Köpfchen;
Aus deinen Augen schleichen sich
Die Perlentränenröpfchen.

Du sagst mir heimlich ein leises Wort,
Und gibst mir den Strauß von Zypressen
Ich wache auf, und der Strauß ist fort,
Und das Wort hab ich vergessen.

Love, whom in dreams I nightly greet,
Whose answering smile I see;
Weeping I fall at thy dear feet,
And tell my woe to thee.

Thou look'st on me with sad surmise,
Thy fair head gently shaking;
The tear-drop pearls within thine eyes
Are gathering slow, and breaking.

Thou giv'st a spray of cypress-tree,
Thou whisperest one word lowly.
I wake, and the cypress no more I see,
And the word is forgotten wholly.