

“Love Sweet” is a collection of five songs based on love poems by the American poet, Amy Lowell. The layout of the poetry reflects the trajectory of a relationship: from birth to death. Three of the songs make use of an unusual piano technique: stopped piano (this unique color is created by reaching in and slightly muffling the piano strings before they are struck in the traditional manner [with the hammer of the key]). This color decision came about because of the presence of the violin and cello in the accompaniment as well; the resulting sound mimics the string instruments’ pizzicato effect (plucking the string, as opposed to traditional bowing).

The poems: “Apology”, “The Giver of Stars”, “Absence”, and “A Gift” are from *Sword Blades and Poppy Seed* (1912)

“A Fixed Idea” is from *A Dome of Many-Coloured Glass* (1912)

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