Sweet Afton

w. Robert Burns 1791; m. J.E Spilman 1837













Instrumental Intro: 1st line

Flow [C] gently, sweet [Dm] Afton! a[C] mang thy green [G7] braes

Verse 1:

Flow [C] gently, sweet [Dm] Afton! a[C] mang thy green [G7] braes, Flow [C] gently, I'll [G] sing thee [F] a [C] song in [G7] thy [C] praise; My [C7] Mary's asleep [F] by thy [C] murmur[F] ing stre[G7] eam, Flow [C] gently, sweet [G] Afton, [F] dis[C] turb not [G7] her [C] dream.

Verse 2:

Thou [C] stockdove whose [Dm] echo re[C] sounds thro' the [G7] glen, Ye [C] wild whistling [G] blackbirds [F] in [C] yon thor[G7] ny [C] den, Thou [C7] green-crested lap[F] wing thy [C] screaming [F] for[G7] bear, I [C] charge you, dis[G] turb not [F] my [C] slumber[G7] ing [C] Fair.

Instrumental break: last line

Flow [C] gently, sweet [G] Afton, [F] dis[C] turb not [G7] her [C] dream.

Verse 3:

How [C] lofty, sweet [Dm] Afton, thy [C] neighbouring [G7] hills, Far [C] mark'd with the [G] courses [F] of [C] clear, wind[G7] ing [C] rills; There [C7] daily I wan[F] der as [C] noon ri[F] ses [G7] high, My [C] flocks and my [G] Mary's [F] sweet [C] cot in [G7] my [C] eye.

Verse 4:

How [C] pleasant thy [Dm] banks and green [C] valleys be[G7] low, Where, [C] wild in the [G] woodlands, [F] the [C] primro[G7] ses [C] blow; There [C7] oft, as mild Ev'[F] ning weeps [C] over [F] the [G7] lea, The [C] sweet-scented [G] birk shades [F] my [C] Mary [G7] and [C] me.

Instrumental break: last line

Flow [C] gently, sweet [G] Afton, [F] dis[C] turb not [G7] her [C] dream.

Verse 5:

Thy [C] crystal stream, [Dm] Afton, how [C] lovely it [G7] glides,
And [C] winds by the [G] cot where [F] my [C] Mary [G7] re[C] sides;
How [C7] wanton thy wa[F] ters her [C] snowy [F] feet [G7] lave,
As, [C] gathering sweet [G] flowerets, [F] she [C] stems thy [G7] clear [C] wave.

Verse 6:

Flow [C] gently, sweet [Dm] Afton, amang [C] thy green [G7] braes, Flow [C] gently, sweet [G] river, [F] the [C] theme of [G7] my [C] lays; My [C7] Mary's asleep [F] by thy [C] murmur[F] ing [G7] stream, Flow [C] gently, sweet [G] Afton, [F] dis[C] turb not [G] her [C] dream.

Instrumental outro: last 2 lines:

My [C7] Mary's asleep [F] by thy [C] murmur[F] ing [G7] stream, Flow [C] gently, sweet [G] Afton, [F] dis[C] turb not [G7] her [C] dream.