

ZUN IN MAYREV

The Sun in the West

Lyrics by Yoysef (Joseph) Rolnik (1879-1955), part of *Der Dikhter un Zayn Lid* (1961)

Music by Vladimir Heifetz (1893 – 1970)

Y. Rolnik - Yiddish poet. Born near Mir (Belorussia) into a miller's family, Rolnick was indelibly marked by the landscape of his youth. He emigrated to New York in 1899, debuted as a Yiddish poet in Forverts in 1900, and returned to Europe in 1901, re-emigrating to New York in 1907.

V. Heifetz was educated at the St. Petersburg Conservatory, and accompanied Feodor Chaliapin on a tour of Russia. In the USA, he conducted the orchestra at the Schenley Theatre in Pittsburgh and arranged for The Don Cossack Chorus... also composed for films, radio and television.

Zun in mayrev zetst zikh gikh.
Vos darf nokh a mentsh vi ikh?
Lider, kleyne lider. Li li li lider.

The sun in the West sets quickly,
What else does someone like me
need? Poems, little poems. (songs)

זון אין מערב זעצט זיך גיך,
וואס דארף נאך א מענטש ווי איך?
לידער, קליינע לידער,
לי-לי-לי — לידער.

Groyse shtet un naye lender –
Bin a durkhgeyer, a fremder.
Noent zaynen lider. Li li li lider.

Large cities and new countries –
I'm a passerby, a stranger.
The poems are close to me.

ניט פארענען אויף דער ערד
נאך א פרייד ווי די וואס ווערט
אויפגעוועקט דורך לידער,
לי-לי-לי — לידער.

Nit faranen oyf der erd
Nokh a freyd, vi di vos vert
Oyfgevekt fun lider. Li li li lider.

There is not on the earth
Another joy as the one that is
Awakened by poems.

ווער ווייס מארגנדיקן מאג?
לידער — אליין וואס איך פארמאג,
זאלן בלעבן לידער,
לי-לי-לי — לידער.

Ver veyst morgndikn tog?
Lider – alts vos ikh farmog –
Zoln blaybn lider. Li li li lider.

Who knows what tomorrow will be?
Poems(songs) are all I have.
May the poems (songs) live.

The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef, 3/4 time. The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb). The melody is accompanied by chords indicated above the notes. The lyrics are written below the notes.

gm D Eb Bb
Zun in may - riv zetst zikh gikh,
Eb Bb G7 cm
vos darf nokh a mench vi ikh?
Bb G7 gm
Li - der, kley - ne li -
Bb D gm
li - li - li li - der.