

Believe Me if All Those Endearing Young Charms

Thomas Moore, 1808 / Traditional tune

C F



1. Be - - lieve me, if all those en - dear - ing young charms, Which I
 2. It ___ is not while beau - ty and youth are thine own, and thy

C G7 C



gaze on so fond - ly to - day, ___ Were to change by to - mor - row, and
 cheeks un - pro - faned by a tear, ___ That the fer - vor and faith of a

F C G7 C



fleet in my arms, Like ___ fair - y gifts, fad - ing a - way, ___ Thou wouldst
 soul can be known, To which time will but make thee more dear! ___ No, the

(C) F C G7



still be a - dored as this mo - ment thou art, Let thy love - li - ness fade as it
 heart that has tru - ly loved nev - er for - gets, But as tru - ly loves on to the

C F



will: ___ And a - round the dear ru - in, each wish of my heart Would en -
 close: ___ As the sun - flow - er turns on her god, when he sets, The same

C G7 C



-twine it - self ver - dant - ly still! ___
 look which she turned when he rose! ___

In 1808 Thomas Moore's wife Bessie contracted smallpox. The scars left on her skin by the disease left her inconsolable and shut herself off in her room. Moore composed the lyrics of this song to reassure her of his continuing love. After hearing him sing to her from outside her bedroom door, her confidence was restored and she allowed him to see her again.

He borrowed the tune from an older song.