

Was ist Sylvia *Schubert*

word-for-word translation into English

Was ist Silvia, saget an, Daß sie die weite Flur preist?
What is Sylvia, tell me, that (her) the wide meadow praises?

Schön und zart seh' ich sie nah'n,
Fair and tender see I her approach;

Auf Himmels Gunst und Spur weist,
To heaven's favour and sign (it) points
(It is a sign of Heaven's favour)

Daß ihr Alles unterthan.
That (to her) all (are) subservient.

Darum, Silvia, tön, o Sang, Der holden Silvia Ehren;
Then, to Silvia, resound, oh song, to the beautiful Silvia the honours;

Jeden Reiz besiegt sie lang, Den Erde kann gewähren:
Every charm conquers she long, that the earth can offer
(She long conquers every charm the earth can offer)

Kränze Ihr und Saitenklang!
Crown her and sound strings!

Shakespeare's sonnet:

Who is Silvia? what is she,
That all our swains commend her?
Holy, fair, and wise is she;
The heaven such grace did lend her,
That she might admirèd be.

Is she kind as she is fair?
For beauty lives with kindness.
Love doth to her eyes repair,
To help him of his blindness;
And, being helped, inhabits there.

Then to Silvia let us sing,
That Silvia is excelling;
She excels each mortal thing
Upon the dull earth dwelling;
To her let us garlands bring