

# Long Ago

Raymond K. Liebau

lyrics by Eugene Field (1850-1895)

Freely and thoughtfully ♩ = 56

*p*

Sopranos  
I once knew all the birds that came and

Altos  
I once knew all the birds that came and

Tenors  
I once knew all

Basses  
I once knew all

3  
S. nes - ted in our or - chard trees. For ev - 'ry flow'r I had a name, my

A. nes - ted in our or - chard trees. For ev - 'ry flow'r I had a name, my

T. I once knew all

B. I once knew all

6  
S. friends were wood - chucks, toads, and bees. I knew where thrived in yon - der

A. friends were wood - chucks, toads, and bees. I knew where thrived in yon - der

T. were wood - chucks, toads, and bees. I knew where thrived in yon - der

B. chucks, toads, and bees. I knew where thrived in yon - der

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9

S. *f*  
glen what plants would soothe a stone-bruised toe. Oh,

A. *f*  
glen what plants would soothe a stone-bruised toe. Oh,

T. *f*  
glen what plants would soothe a stone-bruised toe. Oh,

B. *f*  
glen stone-bruised toe.

11 *rit.* *p* *thoughtfully*

S. *p*  
I was ver - y learn - ed then. But that was ver - y long a - go. —

A. *p*  
I was ver - y learn - ed then. But that was ver - y long a - go. —

T. *p*  
I was ver - y learn. Oo —

B. — — — — —

14 *cheerfully* *mf*

S. *mf*  
I knew the spot up - on the hill where check - er ber - ries could be

A. *mf*  
bum bum bum bum,

T. *mf*  
bum bum bum bum,

B. *mf*  
bum bum bum bum, bum bum bum bum, bum bum bum — bum

17

S. found. I knew the rush-es near the mill where pick-'rel lay that weighed a

A. bum bum, bum bum bum

T. bum bum, bum bum bum

B. bum, bum bum bum bum bum, bum bum bum bum bum, bum bum

20

*warmly*

S. pound! I knew the wood the ver-y tree where lived the poach-ing, sau-cy

A. bum I knew the wood the ver-y tree where lived the poach-ing, sau-cy

T. bum I knew the wood the ver-y tree where lived the poach-ing, sau-cy

B. bum I knew the wood the ver-y tree where lived the poach-ing, sau-cy

*f*

23

*più f*

S. crow, and all the woods and crows knew me, but

A. crow, and all the woods and crows knew me, but

T. crow, and all the woods and crows knew me, but

B. crow, and all the woods and crows knew me, but

*rit.* *mp*

26 *thoughtfully* *p*

S. that was ver - y long a - go. Oo

A. that was ver - y long a - go. Oo

T. that was ver - y long a - go. Oo

B. that was ver - y long a - go. *mp* And pin - ing for the joys of youth I

29 *mf*

S. I

A. I

T. I

B. I

tread the old fa - mil - iar spot on - ly to learn this sol - emn truth; I

31 *mp* *warmly*

S. have for - got - ten. Yet here's this young - ster at my

A. have for - got - ten. Yet here's this young - ster at my

T. have for - got - ten. Yet here's this young - ster at my

B. am for - got - ten. I am for - got. Yet here's this young - ster at my

34 *f*

S. knee, knows all the things I used to know. To

A. knee, knows all the things I used to know. To

T. knee, knows all the things I used to know. To

B. knee, knows all the things I used to know. To

36 *rit.* *p* *accel. e cresc.*

S. think that I was wise as he.

A. think that I was wise as he. But

T. think that I was wise as he. But that was ver - y

B. think that I was wise as he. But that was ver - y long a - go.

39 *ff* *mp*

S. But that was ver - y long a - go. I

A. that was ver - y long a - go.

T. long a - go.

B. long a - go.

42 *sadly*

S. know it's fol - ly to com - plain of what - so - e'er the fates de - cree. Yet,

A. *p*  
Oo

T. *p*  
Oo

B. *p*  
Oo

45

S. were not wish - es all in vain I tell you what my wish should

A. Oo vain I tell you what my wish should

T. Oo vain I tell you what my wish should

B. Oo vain I tell you what my wish should

47 *warmly*

S. *mf* be: I'd wish to be a boy a -

A. *mf* be: I'd wish to be a boy a -

T. *mf* be: I'd wish to be a boy a -

B. *mf* be: I'd wish to be a boy a -

49

S. gain, back with the friends I used to know. For

A. gain, back with the friends I used to know for

T. gain, back with the friends I used to know. For

B. gain, back with the friends I used to know. For

*f*

51 *rit.*

S. I was, oh, so hap - py then, But

A. I was, oh, so hap - py then, But

T. I was, oh, so hap - py then, But

B. I was, oh, was oh so hap - py then, But

*p*

53

S. that was ver - y long a - go. oh, so long a - go.

A. that was ver - y long a - go.

T. that was ver - y long a - go.

B. that was ver - y long a - go.

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

3 soli