Childhood And The Lilies

1. O lily fair, O lily fair, How sweet thy beauty's story!
2. O lily frail, O lily frail, How soon thy glory wane-eth!
3. O childhood bright, O childhood bright, How sweet the joy thou bring-est,
4. O childhood brief, O childhood brief, Tho' swift thy days pass by us.

Thou toil-est not, thou spinn-est not, And earthly honors winnest not;
Up-spring-ing with the morn-ing glow, At evening's breath thou li-est low;
When, trust-ful as the bird in air, And sim-ple as the lil-y fair.
May thy firm trust, thy sim-ple grace, Be aye our strength in man-hood's race;

Yet lil-y fair, O lil-y fair, Thou art ar-rayed in glo-ry.
Yet lil-y fair, O lil-y fair, Thy fra-grance still re-main-eth.
O child-hood bright, O child-hood bright, Thy hap-py song thou sing-est.
Then child-hood brief, O child-hood brief, Thy joy shall still be nigh us.

Words: Rev. F. M. Higginson
Music: German