



SONGS OF COURTSHIP  
I. KEIN FEUER, KEINE KOHLE

*NO BONFIRE, NOT AN EMBER*

arr. HARRIS LOEWEN

SATB divisi  
RM ACH 221

RENFORTH MUSIC  
Rothesay, New Brunswick, Canada  
[www.renforthmusic.com](http://www.renforthmusic.com)

## NOTES

Most German folk songs (both lyrics and music) were written or collected in the 19th century, although many elements date from the 18th century or earlier, and some were collected as late as the early 20th century. While many texts and tunes remain anonymous, some that were adopted and adapted to become “folk music” were originally created by known major and minor poets and composers. Some even originated in non-Germanic countries, such as France and Italy.

Kein Feuer is one of three folk songs chosen for my suite of choral arrangements dealing with romantic love. Given the historical context of the lyrics and music, I have called them Songs of Courtship. In each setting, I have tried to create or enhance a sense of dialogue using men’s and women’s voices; this is especially true of the concluding item in the suite.

Kein Feuer deals with secret love. The men sing of passion, while the women emphasize commitment, both ready to prove their sincerity. For reasons of tonality (F-Eb-F), tempo (progressively faster) and an emotional arc, I suggest that Kein Feuer begin the suite, when all three scores are performed together.

- HL

# Kein Feuer, Keine Kohle

No Bonfire, Not an Ember

SATB divisi

Anon. Silesia, 1786  
Translated: H. Loewen

German Folk Melody (1807)  
Arranged by Harris Loewen

1  $\text{♩} = 90$   
*mf*

T  
Kein Feu - er, kei - ne Koh - le kann bren - nen so heiss, als  
No bon - fire, not an em - ber can burn with such glows, as

B1  
*mf*  
Kein Feu - er, kann bren - nen so heiss, als  
No bon - fire can burn with such glows, as

B2  
*mf*  
Kein Bren - nen so heiss, als  
No fire with such glows, as

Piano  
(rehearsal only)

5

T  
heim - li - che Lie - be, von der nie - mand nichts weiss,  
love sealed in se - cret, in a bond no one knows,

B1  
heim - li - che Lie - be, von der nie - mand nichts weiss,  
love sealed in se - cret, in a bond no one knows,

B2  
heim - li - che Lie - be, von der nie - mand nichts weiss,  
love sealed in se - cret, in a bond no one knows,

9

T  
8

*f* *p*

von der nie - mand nichts weiss.  
in a bond no one knows.

B1

*f* *p*

von der nie - mand nichts weiss.  
in a bond no one knows.

B2

*f* *p*

von der nie - mand nichts weiss.  
in a bond no one knows.

2

13

*mp*

S1

Kei-ne Ro - se, kei - ne Nel - ke kann blü - hen so schön, als  
No ro - ses, no car - na - tions can bloom near so fair, as

S2

*mp*

Kei-ne Ro - se kann blü - hen so schön, als  
No ro - ses can bloom near so fair, as

A1

*mp*

Kein Blü - hen so schön, als  
No bloom near so fair, as

A2

*mp*

Kein Blü - hen so schön, als  
No bloom near so fair, as

17

S1  
wenn zwei ver - lieb - te See - len bei ein - an - der tun stehn,  
when two be - sot - ted lov - ers live in one an - oth - er's care,

S2  
wenn zwei ver - lieb - te See - len bei ein - an - der tun stehn,  
when two be - sot - ted lov - ers live in one an - oth - er's care,

A1  
wenn zwei ver - lieb - te See - len bei ein - an - der tun stehn,  
when two be - sot - ted lov - ers live in one an - oth - er's care,

A2  
wenn zwei ver - lieb - te See - len bei ein - an - der tun stehn,  
when two be - sot - ted lov - ers live in one an - oth - er's care,

*cresc.*

21

S1  
bei ein - an - der tun stehn. bei ein - an - der tun stehn.  
live in one an - oth - er's care, live in one an - oth - er's care.

S2  
— bei ein - an - der tun stehn, bei ein - an - der tun stehn.  
— live in one an - oth - er's care, live in one an - oth - er's care.

A1  
— bei ein - an - der tun stehn, bei ein - an - der tun stehn.  
— live in one an - oth - er's care, live in one an - oth - er's care.

A2  
— bei ein - an - der tun stehn.  
— live in one an - oth - er's care.

*f* *mp*