

# La Chevelure

From "Trois Chansons de Bilitis"  
by Pierre Louys

## Her Hair

English version by  
Henry G. Chapman

Claude Debussy

**Voice** *Lento giusto*

Il m'a dit:  
Now he said:

**Piano** *p molto espressivo*

*Meno lento* *p molto espressivo e con intensità calorosa*

Cet - te nuit, j'ai rê - vé.  
In the night I dreamed

J'a - vais ta che - ve - lure au - tour de mon cou.  
that I could feel thy hair a - round my neck.

*cresc. poco a poco*

J'a - vais tes che - veux comme un col - lier  
Yes, it was thy hair like a dusk - y

*cresc. poco a poco*

noir au - tour de ma nuque et sur ma poi - tri -  
 veil a - round my neck and o - ver my bo -

*mf*

- ne. Je les ca - res - sais, et c'étaient les miens;  
 - som. I ca - ressed thy hair, for it was mine own,

*p*

et nous é - tions li - és pour tou - jours ain - si,  
 and by it we to - geth - er were bound for aye,

*mf*

par la mê - me che - ve - lu - re la bou - che sur la bou - che,  
 Bound by our u - ni - ted tresses, with lips to lips, to - geth - er,

*mf string.* *cresc.* *3* *f.*

*mf string. 5* *cresc.*

## Tempo I

*p subito*

ain-si que deux lau-riers n'ont sou-vent qu'u-ne ra-ci-ne.  
as oft two lau-rel-trees have one root a-lone be-tween them.

*p subito*

*poco a poco accel. e cresc.*

Et peu a peu, il m'a sem-blé, tant nos membres é-  
And, more and more, it seem'd to me, that our be-ing so

*poco a poco accel. e cresc.*

*pp*

taient con-fon-dus, que je de-ve-nais toi-mê-me,  
merged in-to one, that at last I came to be thee,

ou que tu en-trais en moi com-me mon son-ge.  
or that thou hadst like a dream en-tered my spir-it.

*ff*

Tempo I, più lento

Quandil eut a - che - vé, —  
When he ceased to speak, —

*p molto espressivo*

il mit dou - ce - ment ses mains sur mes é - pau - lés, et il  
he gen - tly placed his hands up - on my shoul - ders, and he

*molto pp*

me re - gar - da d'un re - gard si ten - dre, que je bais -  
gazed on me with a look so ten - der, that with a

*pp*

Lento assai

sai les yeux a - vec un fris - son.  
sud - den thrill I low - ered my eyes.

*pp*