

Sever Tipei

Jewel Steps Grievance

for female voice

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- ◆ growl
- [u-o-i-a] basic vowels (as in Italian) changing the strength of various overtones
- ≡ tremolo; stop and allow air to pass
- ⌈ nasal: sing notated pitch and produce an overtone (octave ?) at the same time
- ≡ nasal and tremolo combined
- └ glottal attack
- Ⓣ, Ⓟ stress the consonance by rolling it (rrrrrr..., llllll...)
- o + o + change mouth opening by controlling lips position (wide opening – almost completely closed); also changes overtone content/strength but not by much
- o + o + combine nasal and mouth (lips) opening, use same vowel
- ~ slight sound bend, ¼ tone or less
- † ¼ tone higher
- ‡ ¾ tone higher
- ^ shorter rest
- ⌒ longer rest

The number of seconds a fragment is supposed to last is marked above bar lines. These indications are only suggestions and the performance which should last about 60 seconds, should have an improvisatory character.

The music may be transposed to better fit the singer's range.

The Jewel Stairs Grievance

The jewelled steps are already quite white with dew,
 It is so late that the dew soaks my gauze stockings,
 And I let down the crystal curtain
 And watch the moon through the clear autumn.

by Rihaku (Li T'ai Po) in Ezra Pound's interpretation

Jewel Steps Grievance

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Agitated chest voice

head voice nasal

The Jew- [u-i-o-a-u] - e@ steps are

upset chest voice

resigned head voice non vib.

Placid expressionless

poco vib.

fal- ready wet with dew It is so [o-u-a] late

nasal

rushing head voice chest voice

that the dew soaks my gauze stock-ings

collected falsetto

chest voice nasal

bel canto

And I let down the c@ys - tal cur - tain

calm poco vib. chest voice

falsetto

And watch the moon - through the clear au - tumn