SHE NOT ONLY REIGNS, BUT SHE POURS (For the Queens's platinum Jubilee) Music by Edward Elgar and Richard Stilgoe Words by Richard Stilgoe.

(intro, divide between solo voices)
A FRIEND OF A FRIEND OF A FRIEND WENT TO TEA AT WINDSOR CASTLE,
HOPING THE GUARDS WOULD PLAY CHARADES
OR A GAME OF PASS THE PARCEL —
FOR THE QUEEN LIKES GAMES,
AND THE QUEEN LIKES JOKES,
SO WHEN THE CASTLE CLOCK . . STRUCK FOUR,
SHE POURED THE HOT
TEA FROM THE POT
TILL EVERY CUP
WAS FILLED RIGHT UP
AND WITH A TWINKLE IN HER EYE
SHE SAID "LOOK! I
NOT ONLY REIGN, BUT I POUR!"

(chorus)

SHE NOT ONLY REIGNS BUT SHE POURS IN BETWEEN ROYAL VISITS AND ROYAL TOURS SHE'S MANAGED TO BE OUR CUP OF TEA – SHE NOT ONLY REIGNS BUT SHE POURS.

(Verse)

PHOTOGRAPHED AT JUBILEES,
SILVER, GOLD AND PLATINUM
WHEREVER THERE ARE THRONES ABOUT
HER MAJESTY HAS SAT IN 'EM.
CORGIS IN THE PICTURES
YOU NEVER SEE A CAT IN 'EM,
A MILLION TRILLION PHOTOGRAPHS
AND ALWAYS WORE A HAT IN 'EM.
SHE'S KEPT GOING WHILE PRIME MINISTERS HAVE GONE
THAT DESERVES A CUPPA – PUT THE KETTLE ON!

(chorus)

SHE NOT ONLY REIGNS BUT SHE POURS
IN BETWEEN WRITING LETTERS AND SIGNING LAWS
SHE'S MANAGED TO BE
OUR CUP OF TEA —
SHE NOT ONLY REIGNS BUT SHE POURS.

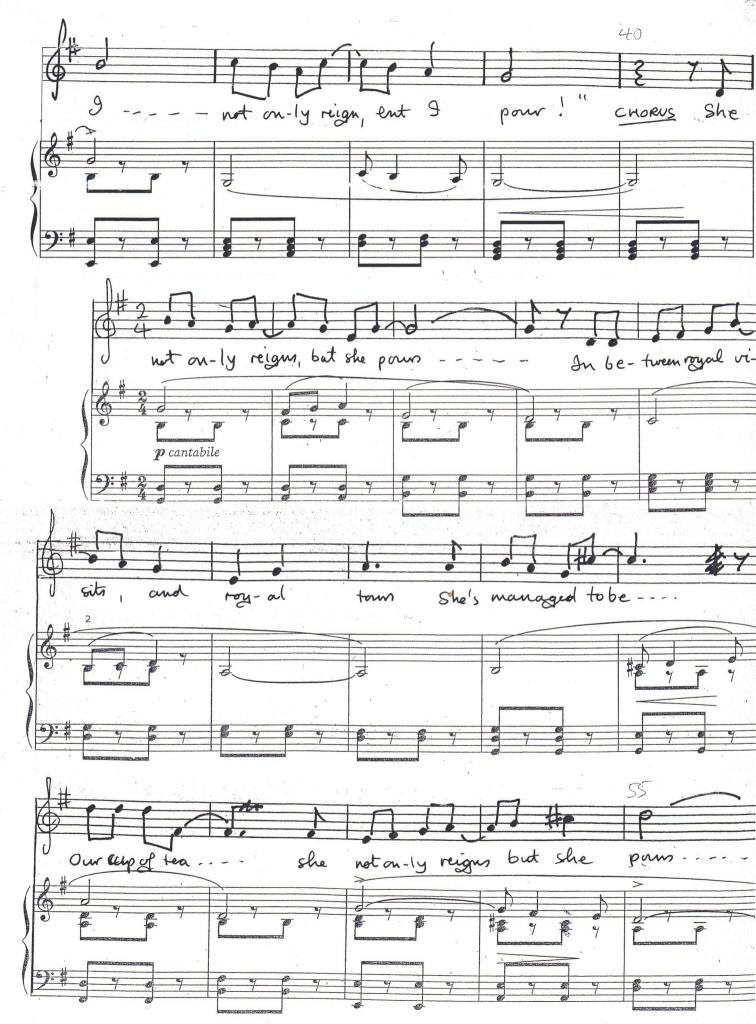
SHE NOT ONLY REIGNS BUT SHE POURS THROUGH SEVENTY YEARS OF APPLAUSE SHE'S MANAGED TO BE OUR CUP OF TEA – THROUGH SEVENTY YEARS OF HOPES AND FEARS SHE NOT ONLY REIGNS SHE NOT ONLY REIGNS BUT SHE POURS.

I am assured on the flimsiest authority (by a friend of a friend of a friend of a friend) that Her Majesty did actually pour out the tea and say "There – I not only reign, but I pour." I believe this – she is rumoured to enjoy that sort of joke.

25.03.2022.















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Richard Hilgore