



Come to me, gentle sleep

Frederic H. Cowen
(1852-1935)

Sir Frederic Hymen Cowen (1852-1935) was born Hymen Frederick Cohen in Kingston, Jamaica. His father became treasurer to “Her Majesty’s Opera” and the family moved to England when Frederic was age four. At age six, his composition *Minna-waltz* was published and, at age eight, an operetta, *Garibaldi*. His first public piano recital was when he was eleven. In 1865, he won the Mendelssohn Scholarship at the Leipzig Conservatorium. However, he did not accept the award and attended the institution as an independent student, since his parents were unwilling to give up control of him, as required by the scholarship. After returning to England, he became successful as a composer. His Symphony No. 3 in C minor (1880) became the most regularly and widely performed British symphony until Elgar’s First. From 1888-1892 he was conductor of Philharmonic Society of London after the resignation of Sir Arthur Sullivan (reappointed in 1899). In 1896, Cowen was appointed conductor of the Liverpool Philharmonic Society and of the Hallé Orchestra. He also conducted the Bradford Festival Choral Society, the Bradford Permanent Orchestra, and the Scottish Orchestra (Royal Scottish National Orchestra). Cowen received honorary doctorates from Cambridge and Edinburgh.

Come to me, gentle sleep!
I pine, I pine for thee;
Come with thy spells, the soft, the deep,
And set my spirit free!
Each lonely, burning thought,
In twilight languor steep—
Come to the full heart, long o’erwrought,
O gentle, gentle sleep!

Come with thine urn of dew,
Sleep, gentle sleep! yet bring
No voice, love’s yearning to renew,
No vision on thy wing!
Come, as to folding flowers,
To birds in forests deep;
—Long, dark, and dreamless be thine hours,
O gentle, gentle sleep!

Felicia Dorothea Browne Hemans (1793-1835)

Come to me, gentle sleep

Frederic H. Cowen

Adagio sostenuto $\text{♩} = 54$

S *p dolce*
Come to me, gen - tle sleep! I pine, I pine for

A *p dolce*
Come to me, gen - tle sleep! I pine, I pine for

T *p dolce*
Come to me, gen - tle sleep! I pine, I pine for

B *p dolce*
Come to me, gen - tle sleep! I pine, I pine for

4
S
thee; Come with thy spells, the soft, the deep, And set, and

A
thee; Come with thy spells, the soft, the deep, And set, and

T
thee; Come with thy spells, the soft, the deep, And set, and

B
thee; Come with thy spells, the soft, the deep, And set, and

Come to me, gentle sleep

7

S set my spir - it free! Each lone - ly thought, each lone - ly,

A set my spir - it free! Each lone - ly thought, each lone - ly,

T set my spir - it free! Each lone - ly, lone - ly,

B set my spir - it free! Each lone - ly

10

S burn - ing thought, In twi - light lan - guor steep— Come to the

A burn - ing thought, In lan - guor steep— Come to the

T burn - ing thought, In lan - guor steep— Come to the

B burn - ing thought, each lone - ly thought, In lan - guor steep— Come to the

13

S full heart, long o'er - wrought, long o'er - wrought, Come, dim.

A full heart, long o'er - wrought, long o'er - wrought, Come, dim.

T full heart, long o'er - wrought, long o'er - wrought, Come, dim.

B full heart, long o'er - wrought, long o'er - wrought, Come, dim.

Come to me, gentle sleep

16

S O gen - tle sleep, gen - tle sleep! *poco rall.* *a tempo*

A gen - tle sleep, gen - tle sleep! *poco rall.* *a tempo*

T O gen - tle sleep, gen - tle sleep! *poco rall.* *a tempo*

B gen - tle sleep, O sleep! *poco rall.* *a tempo*

20

S Come to me, gen - tle sleep! *rall.* gen - tle sleep! *p*

A *p* *rall.* Come to me, gen - tle sleep!

T *p* *rall.* Come to me, gen - tle sleep! *p* gen - tle sleep!

B *rall.* gen - tle sleep!

25

S *p dolce* Come with thine urn of dew, Come sleep, come gen - tle

A *p dolce* Come with thine urn of dew, Come sleep, come gen - tle

T *p dolce* Come with thine urn of dew, Come sleep, come gen - tle

B *p dolce* Come with thine urn of dew, Come sleep, come gen - tle

Come to me, gentle sleep

28 *poco cresc.* *dim.*

S sleep! — yet bring No voice, love's yearn - ing to re - new, No vi - sion, no

A sleep! — yet bring No voice, love's yearn - ing to re - new, No vi - sion, no

T sleep! — yet bring No voice, love's yearn - ing to re - new, No vi - sion, no

B sleep! — yet bring No voice, love's yearn - ing to re - new, No vi - sion, no

31 *p* *cresc.*

S vi - sion on thy wing! Come, as to fold - ing flow'rs, to

A vi - sion on thy wing! Come, as to fold - ing flow'rs, to

T vi - sion on thy wing! Come, as to flow'rs, to

B vi - sion on thy wing! Come, as to

34 *mf*

S fold - ing flow'rs, — To birds in for - ests deep; — Long, dark, and

A fold - ing flow'rs, — in for - ests deep; — Long, dark, and

T fold - ing flow'rs, — in for - ests deep; — Long, dark, and

B fold - ing flow'rs, — Come, as to birds in for - ests deep; — Long, dark, and

Come to me, gentle sleep

37 *f* *dim.* *p*

S dream - less be thine hours, long and dream - less, dream -

A dream - less be thine hours, long and dream - less, dream -

T dream - less be thine hours, long and dream - less, dream -

B *f* *dim.* *p*
dream - less be thine hours, long and dream - less, dream -

40 *pp* *poco rall.*

S - less be thine hours, O gen - tle sleep!

A - less be thine hours, gen - tle sleep!

T - less be thine hours, gen - tle sleep!

B - - less thine hours, O sleep!

44 *pp* *rall. al fine* *pp* *ppp*

S Come to me, gen - tle sleep! gen - tle sleep!

A *rall. al fine* *pp* *ppp*
Come to me, gen - tle sleep!

T *pp* *rall. al fine* *pp* *ppp*
Come to me, gen - tle sleep! Come to me, gen - tle sleep!

B *rall. al fine* *pp* *ppp*
gen - tle sleep!

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