



Margaritae Sorori

Ernest Farrar
(1885-1918)

Ernest Bristow Farrar (1885-1918) was born in Lewisham, London, England, moving to Micklefield, Yorkshire, where his father was a clergyman. He attended Leeds Grammar School and passed his Associateship Diploma of the Royal College of Organists. He won a scholarship to the Royal College of Music where he studied with Sir Charles Villiers Stanford and Sir Walter Parratt. He served as organist at All Saints English Church, Dresden; St. Hilda's Church, South Shields; and Christ Church, High Harrogate. While at South Shields, Ralph Vaughan Williams wrote to him: "I suppose I must congratulate you on your appointment – I certainly congratulate them – but it's a beastly job being organist and unless one is very careful lowers one's moral tone (not to speak of one's musical) horribly." He was teacher of the young Gerald Finzi. At the outbreak of World War I, as he enlisted in the Grenadier Guards and was commissioned as Second Lieutenant, 3rd Battalion Devonshire Regiment. After being at the front for only two days, he was killed by machine-gun fire at the Battle of Epehy Ronssoy, near Le Cateau in the Somme Valley south, west of Cambrai. He composed quite a number of works including works for orchestra, organ, and voices.

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A Late lark twitters from the quiet skies;
And from the west,
Where the sun, his day's work ended,
Lingers as in content,
There falls on the old, gray city
An influence luminous and serene,
A shining peace.

The smoke ascends in a rosy-and-golden haze. The spires
Shine, and are changed. In the valley,
Shadows rise. The lark sings on. The sun,
Closing his benediction,
Sinks, and the darkening air
Thrills with a sense of the triumphing night--
Night with her train of stars
And her great gift of sleep.

So be my passing!
My task accomplished and the long day done,
My wages taken, and in my heart
Some late lark singing,
Let me be gathered to the quiet west,
The sundown splendid and serene,
Death.

William Ernest Henley (1849-1903)

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Tranquillo

The musical score is written for four voices: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor 1 (T 1), and Bass 2 (B 2). The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo is marked 'Tranquillo'. The Soprano and Alto parts have lyrics: 'A Late lark twit-ters from the quiet skies; And from the'. The Tenor 1 and Bass 2 parts are silent, indicated by a whole rest in each measure. The score consists of five measures. The first measure is in 3/4 time, and the second measure is in 3/4 time. The third measure is in 3/4 time, and the fourth measure is in 3/4 time. The fifth measure is in 3/4 time. The Soprano and Alto parts have a fermata over the final note of the fifth measure.

S
A
T 1
B 2

A Late lark twit-ters from the quiet skies; And from the

A Late lark twit-ters from the quiet skies; And from the

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5

S west, Where the sun, his day's work end - ed, Lin - gers,

A west, Where the sun, his day's work end - ed, Lin - gers, lin -

T 1 Where the sun, his day's work end - ed, Lin - gers,

B 2 Where the sun, his day's work end - ed, Lin - gers,

9

S lin - gers as in con - tent, There falls on the

A - gers as in con - tent, There falls on the

T 1 lin - gers as in con - tent, There falls on the

B 2 lin - gers as in con - tent, There falls on the

poco rall. *a tempo* *cresc.*

13

S old, gray cit - y An in - - - fluence

A old, gray cit - y An in - - - fluence

T 1 old, gray cit cit - y, An in - - - fluence, fluence an

B 2 old, gray cit - y An

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16

S lu - mi - nous, lu - mi - nous and se - rene, A

A lu - mi - nous, lu - mi - nous and se - rene, A shin - ing

T 1 lu - mi - nous, in - fluence se - rene, mi - nous and se - rene, A shin - ing

B 2 in - fluence se - rene, A shin - - - ing,

f *3* *dim.* *f* *3* *dim.* *f* *3* *dim.* *f* *3* *dim.*

20

S shin - - - ing peace. The

A peace, A shin - ing peace, A shin - ing peace.

T 1 peace, A shin - ing peace.

B 2 — A shin - ing peace.

pp *mf* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

Più mosso

26

S smoke as - cends in a ros - y - and - gold - en

A *mf* The smoke as - cends, as - cends in a ros - y - and - gold - en

T 1 *mf* The smoke as - cends in a ros - y - and - gold - en

B 2

mf *3* *3*

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31

S haze. The spires Shine, and are changed. *rit.*

A haze. The spires Shine, and are changed. In the *rit.*

T 1 haze. The spires Shine, and are changed. *rit.*

B 2 The spires Shine, and are changed. In the *rit.*

Tempo I

36

S The lark sings on. The

A val - ley, Shad - ows rise. The lark sings on. The

T 1 The lark sings on. The

B 2 val - ley, Shad - ows rise. The lark sings on. The

40

S sun, Clos - - ing his ben - e - dic - tion,

A sun, Clos - - ing his ben - e - dic - tion,

T 1 sun, Clos - - ing his ben - e - dic - tion,

B 2 sun, Clos - - ing his ben - e - dic - tion,

43

S Sinks, and the dark - en - ing air Thrills with a

A Sinks, and the dark - en - ing air, the dark - en - ing air

T 1 Sinks, and the dark - en - ing air Thrills with a

T 2 dark - en - ing air Thrills with a

B 1 Sinks, and the dark - en - ing air, the dark - en - ing air

B 2 Sinks, and the dark - en - ing air Thrills with a

46

S sense of the tri - umph - ing night—

A Thrills with a sense of the tri - umph - ing

T 1 sense of the tri - - - umph - ing

T 2 sense of the tri - umph - ing night—

B 1 Thrills with a sense of the tri - umph - ing

B 2 sense of the tri - - - umph - ing

48

S

A *mp* night— Night— with her train of stars *pp* And her

T 1 night—

B 2 *mp* night— Night— with her train of stars *pp* And her

51

S *rit.*

A *rit.* great gift of sleep.

T 1 *rit.*

B 2 *rit.* great gift of sleep.

Tempo 1

54

S *pp* So be my pass - ing! My task ac - com - plish'd and the *cresc.*

A *pp* So be my pass - ing! My task ac - com - plish'd and the *cresc.*

T 1 *pp* So be my pass - ing! My task ac - com - plish'd and the *cresc.*

B 2 *pp* So be my pass - ing! My task ac - com - plish'd and the *cresc.*

58

S long day done, and in my heart Some

A long day done, and in my heart Some

T 1 long day done, and in my heart Some Some

B 2 long day done, My wa - ges ta - ken, and in my heart Some

f

62

S late lark sing - - - ing, Let me be

A late lark sing - - - ing, Let me be

T 1 late lark lark sing - - - ing, Let me be

B 2 late lark sing - ing, Let me be

dim.

p

66

S gath - er'd to the quiet west, The sun - down splen - did,

A gath - er'd to the quiet west, The sun - down splen - did, plen -

T 1 gath - er'd to the quiet west, The sun - down splen - did,

B 2 gath - er'd to the quiet west, The sun - down splen - did,

70

rit. *ppp*

S plen - did and se - rene, Death.

rit. *ppp*

A - did and se - rene, Death.

rit. *ppp*

T 1 plen - did and se - rene, Death.

rit. *ppp*

B 2 plen - did and se - rene, Death.

The image shows a musical score for four voices: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor 1 (T 1), and Bass 2 (B 2). The score is in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and starts at measure 70. The music is divided into two systems of two measures each. The first system is in 2/4 time, and the second system is in 3/4 time. The lyrics are: 'plen - did and se - rene, Death.' for Soprano, Tenor 1, and Bass 2; and '- did and se - rene, Death.' for Alto. Performance markings include 'rit.' (ritardando) and 'ppp' (pianissimo) above the notes. The Soprano part has a fermata over the final note of the second measure in the 3/4 system. The Alto part has a fermata over the final note of the second measure in the 3/4 system. The Tenor 1 part has a fermata over the final note of the second measure in the 3/4 system. The Bass 2 part has a fermata over the final note of the second measure in the 3/4 system.

J. Williams
(1916)

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