

Three Sleeps

John Cerrard Williams (1888–1947) Life had not heard of Love, Nor dreamed in sleep there-of; The Soul within him lay Unwakened night and day. Sweet is the sleep that is dreamless.

'Twixt Lily and Violet The Soul and Love first met; They drank delight full deep; Till joy was crowned with sleep. Sweet is the sleep that is dreamless.

Time, who lets nothing rest, Lured Life on some new quest; The Soul flew far and wide, But Love lay down and died. Sweet is the sleep that is dreamless.

F. Wyville Home (1851-unknown)

J. G. Williams



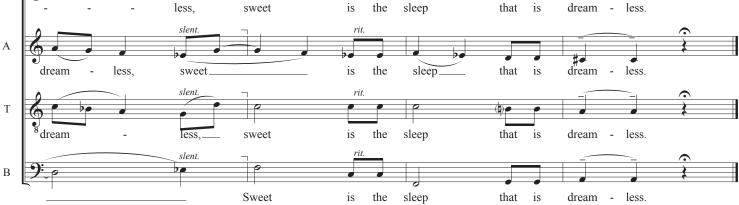


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Novello and Co. (1920)

John Gerrard Williams (1888-1947) was born in London and began a career as an architect. He devoted his spare time to music, joining choral societies and orchestras. he had had no other training when began to compose in 1911, becoming a fruitful composer and arranger. Most works are smaller forms and intimate in nature. Much of his best work are lyrical songs. Williams composed an orchestral ballet, a rhapsody, a suite and assorted smaller pieces. His string quartets reflect French influence, especially that of Debussy and his piano music has been compared to Ravel's. His choral music was mainly brief in format, writing songs for mixed voices (e.g. Diaphenia, Sweet Kate, Fair, Sweet, Cruel, Charming Chloe, Three Sleeps, When Laura Smiles, Whither Runneth My Sweet Heart? and the wordless Tragic Fragment), women's voices (The Hawthorne Tree), four-part men's voices (e.g. Old Farmer Buck, Thou Sent'st to *Me a Heart* and *Scizzars are Pumpy*) and two part children's voices (e.g. Welcome Sweet Pleasure, I Loved a Lass and Foreign Craft). Williams also wrote hundreds of instrumental arrangements of folk-songs, folk dance tunes, popular melodies, J.S. Bach and more.

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