

Sleep and Death

for

Voice and Piano

by

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HARVEY MUSIC EDITIONS

Sleep and Death

poem: Robert Leighton (1822-1869)
music: Justin Henry Rubin (2017)

Solennemente

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It begins with a vocal line that is mostly silent, indicated by a series of horizontal bars. The piano accompaniment starts with a *ppp* dynamic and a tempo marking of *dolce e molto espressivo*. The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of three flats. The piano part features a steady, flowing accompaniment with various dynamics including *pp*, *p*, and *mp*. A *Rit.* (ritardando) marking appears in the middle section, leading to a *ppp* section. The vocal line enters with the lyrics: "sleep, like death, be thus so sweet, How bles-séd to be dead!". The score concludes with a *pp* dynamic marking.

This wake-ful-ness is mad-ness; and to sleep were

p *mp*

pass-ing in - to sa - ni - ty. From rest so deep I should not go.

p *pp* *Rit.*

a tempo *Poco rit.*

ppp *pp*

For death is but a deep - er sleep. And

ppp *poco* *sempre*

think not that a dream is ab-sent fact, Its life less true than wa-king.

pp *p*

This life which we so real deem... seems As mad as

mp *p*

Rit. *Poco meno mosso*

a - ny dream!

pp *ppp* *pp*

Rit.