

# *Life a Glass Window*

Three songs based on the poetry of  
Thomas Lovell Beddoes (1803-1849)

for

Tenor and Piano

by

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HARVEY MUSIC EDITIONS

# Life a Glass Window

Based on excerpts from *Poems* (1851) by Thomas Lovell Beddoes (1803-1849)

*Andantino, poco allegretto ma fermamente* **I: Dirge**

music: Justin Henry Rubin (2015)

*non-rit.*

*f*

To her couch of eve-ning rest, 'Neath the sun's, Be-neath the sun's di-

*f*

*mf*

vi - nest west, Bear we,

*mf*

in the si - lent car, *cresc.*

*Rit.*

*mp*

*a tempo (poco meno mosso)*

This con - sumed in - cense star,

The first system of the score consists of a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in a soprano clef with a key signature of one flat and a 2/4 time signature. It begins with a rest, followed by the lyrics "This con - sumed in - cense star,". The piano accompaniment is in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with a key signature of one flat and a 2/4 time signature. It features a complex texture with many accidentals and dynamic markings, including a piano (*p*) marking.

*Rit.*

*Tornando a tempo I*

This dear maid whose life is shed,

The second system of the score continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line has the lyrics "This dear maid whose life is shed,". The piano accompaniment features a change in time signature from 2/4 to 3/4. It includes a forte (*f*) dynamic marking and a crescendo leading to the end of the system.

This system shows the piano accompaniment for the second system, continuing from the previous system. It features a change in time signature from 2/4 to 3/4 and includes a forte (*f*) dynamic marking.

*Meno mosso*

And whose sweets are sweet - ly dead, dead,

The third system of the score features a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line has the lyrics "And whose sweets are sweet - ly dead, dead,". The piano accompaniment is in a grand staff with a key signature of one flat and a 2/4 time signature. It includes a piano (*p*) dynamic marking.

*Molto rit. molto dim.* ,

8 dead, dead.

*molto dim.*

This system contains a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line has two phrases: "dead," and "dead." The piano accompaniment consists of a right-hand part with chords and a left-hand part with a rhythmic pattern. The tempo and dynamics markings are *Molto rit.* and *molto dim.*

## II: *Life a Glass Window* (a fragment)

*Vellutato, ma con poco moto*

*mp con esp.*

This system features piano accompaniment in 4/4 time, which changes to 2/4 time at the end. The right hand plays a series of chords, and the left hand plays a rhythmic accompaniment. The dynamic marking is *mp con esp.*

*Rit.*

This system continues the piano accompaniment from the previous system, maintaining the same rhythmic and harmonic structure. The tempo marking is *Rit.*

*mp a tempo*

8 Let him lean A - gainst his life, that

This system features a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line has the lyrics: "Let him lean A - gainst his life, that". The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a rhythmic pattern. The dynamic and tempo markings are *mp a tempo*.

glas - sy in - ter - val 'Twixt us and

*Rit.* , *a tempo*

us and no - - - thing, us and no - - -

*Molto rit.*

thing; us and no - - - - thing;

*a tempo*

and, up - on the ground Of his

*Rit.* *a tempo p*

own slip-p'ry breath, draw

*cresc. poco a poco*

hue - - - less dreams, draw

*Poco rit.* *a tempo* *f* *p* *Rit.*

hue - - - less dreams, And gaze, And

*Molto rit.*

gaze, And gaze on frost- -work hopes.

*a tempo*, *p* 3

Un - cour - te - ous Death

*pp* *p* *8va*

*Molto rit.* *dim.*

Knuck - les Knuck - - - les the pane,

[loco]

*ppp*

### III: Kisses

*Moderato waltz* *mp* *esp.*

Her kis - - - ses are

*mp*

*Rit.*

8  
soft as a snow-tuft in the dew-less cup

*a tempo*

8  
Her kisses are

*Rit.*

8  
soft as a snow-tuft in the dew-less cup

*a tempo*

8  
Of a re-dou-ble-d rose,



*Rit.*

Of a re - dou - bled rose,

The first system of the score consists of a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The vocal line begins with a whole rest, followed by the lyrics "Of a re - dou - bled rose,". The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line with chords in the right hand.

*a tempo*

noise - less - ly noise - less - ly

The second system continues the vocal line with the lyrics "noise - less - ly noise - less - ly". The piano accompaniment maintains its harmonic support with a consistent bass line and chords.

fall - - ing fall - - ing

The third system features the lyrics "fall - - ing fall - - ing". The piano accompaniment includes a double bar line with repeat dots, indicating a repeated musical phrase.

fall - - - ing

The fourth system concludes the vocal line with the lyrics "fall - - - ing". The piano accompaniment features a double bar line with repeat dots and includes markings for "8vb" (octave below) on the bass line.

When hea - - - - ven, hea - - - - ven,

*mf*

hea - - - - - ven is brim - - - - -

*f* *Rit. mf dim. a tempo*

ful of star - ry, star - - - - ry night.

*p* *Rit. poco a poco al fine* *dim. al niente*

*pppp*