

Mid-Winter Songs

On Poems by Robert Graves

by Morten Lauridsen

I. Lament for Pasiphaë

Dying sun, shine warm a little longer!
My eye, dazzled with tears, shall dazzle yours,
Conjuring you to shine and not to move.
You, sun, and I all afternoon have laboured
Beneath a dewless and oppressive cloud—
a fleece now gilded with our common grief
That this must be a night without a moon.
Dying sun, shine warm a little longer!

Faithless she was not: she was very woman,
Smiling with dire impartiality,
Sovereign, with heart unmatched, adored of men,
Until Spring's cuckoo with bedraggled plumes
Tempted her pity and her truth betrayed.
Then she who shone for all resigned her being,
And this must be a night without a moon.
Dying sun, shine warm a little longer!

Appassionata (♩ = 76)

SOPRANO
Dy - ing sun,

ALTO
Dy - ing sun,

TENOR
Dy - ing sun,

BASS
Dy - ing sun,

PIANO

The musical score is written for five parts: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and Piano. The tempo is marked 'Appassionata' with a quarter note equal to 76 beats per minute. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score begins with a 2/4 time signature and includes various musical notations such as dynamics (ff), articulation (>), and phrasing slurs. The vocal parts enter with the lyrics 'Dy - ing sun,' and the piano accompaniment provides a harmonic and rhythmic foundation.

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ff *molto rit.*
 dy - ing sun, dy - ing
ff *molto rit.*
 dy - ing sun, dy - ing
 8 *ff* *molto rit.*
 dy - ing sun, dy - ing
ff *molto rit.*
 dy - ing sun, dy - ing

a tempo *ritenuto* *a tempo* *mf*
 sun, shine
a tempo *ritenuto* *a tempo* *mf*
 sun, shine
a tempo *ritenuto* *a tempo* *mf*
 8 sun, shine
a tempo *ritenuto* *a tempo* *mf*
 sun, shine