

# Silent Noon

for SATB and Piano

Words by

Dante Gabriel Rossetti (1828-1882)

Music by

Ralph Vaughan-Williams (1872-1958)

The original was written in 1903

Choral Arrangement by

Kentaro Sato



*Wiseman Project*

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Music by Ralph Vaughan-Williams (1872-1958)  
Choral Arr. by Kentaro Sato (Ken-P)

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Your hands lie open in the long fresh grass--  
The finger-points look through like rosy blooms:  
Your eyes smile peace. The pasture gleams and glooms  
'Neath billowing skies that scatter and amass.  
All round our nest, far as the eye can pass,  
Are golden kingcup-fields with silver edge  
Where the cow-parsley skirts the hawthorn-hedge.  
'Tis visible silence, still as the hour-glass.

Deep in the sun-searched growths the dragonfly  
Hangs like a blue thread loosened from the sky:  
So this winged hour is dropt to us from above.  
Oh! clasp we to our hearts, for deathless dower,  
This close-companioned inarticulate hour  
When twofold silence was the song of love.

The musical score is arranged for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Bass (B), and Piano (Piano/Pno.). It is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo is marked as *mp* (mezzo-piano) with a quarter note equal to approximately 65 beats per minute. The score consists of two systems. The first system covers measures 1-5, and the second system covers measures 6-10. The vocal parts have lyrics under the notes, and the piano accompaniment features a consistent rhythmic pattern of chords and moving lines.

**System 1 (Measures 1-5):**  
Soprano: *mp* Your hands lie o - pen in the long fresh  
Alto: (rest)  
Tenor: (rest)  
Bass: (rest)  
Piano: *mp*

**System 2 (Measures 6-10):**  
Soprano: *p* grass, The fin - ger points look through like ro - sy blooms: Your eyes smile  
Alto: (rest)  
Tenor: (rest)  
Bass: (rest)  
Piano: *p*

*mf* <

11

S A

peace.

*mp*

T B

The pas-ture gleams and glooms 'Neath bil - low - ing ski that

*mf* <

11

Pno.

*mp*

The pas-ture gleams and glooms 'Neath bil - low - ing ski that

16

S A

sca - ter and a - ma

*mf* = c.85

T B

scat - ter and a

16

Pno.

*mf*

22

S A

all round our nest, far as the eye can pass, Are gold - en

*mp*

T B

Are gold - en

*mp*

22

Pno.

28  
S A king-cup fields with sil - ver edge,  
T B king-cup fields with sil - ver edge, Where the cow - pars - ley skirt the

28  
Pno. king-cup fields with sil - ver edge, Where the cow - pars - ley skirt the

33 *rit.* *pp*  
S A 'Tis vi si-ble si - lence, as the  
T B haw - thorn he 'Tis vi - si-ble lence, still as the

33  
Pno. haw - thorn he 'Tis vi - si-ble lence, still as the

S A hour s.  
T B hour s.

39 *rit.* *a tempo* *rit.*  
Pno. *rit.* *a tempo* *rit.*

The musical score is presented in three systems. The first system (measures 28-32) features Soprano and Tenor vocal lines with lyrics 'king-cup fields with silver edge,' and a piano accompaniment. The second system (measures 33-37) includes lyrics 'Tis visible silence, as the haw-thorn he' and 'Tis visible lence, still as the'. It contains performance markings such as *rit.*, *pp*, and a triplet of eighth notes. The third system (measures 39-43) shows the vocal lines with lyrics 'hour s.' and a piano accompaniment with markings for *rit.*, *a tempo*, and *rit.*. A large, stylized 'NO COPYRIGHT' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the entire page.

Silent Noon

4

$\text{♩} = c.75$  *Freely*

2+3

S  
A  
T  
B  
Pno.

*mp*

Deep in the sun-searched growths the dra - on-fly hangs like a blue loos -

*mp*

Deep in the sun-searched growths the dra - on-fly hangs like a blue loos -

*mp*

*p*

S  
A  
T  
B  
Pno.

*a tempo mp*

-ened from the sky: this winged

*mp*

-ened from the sky: this winged

*rit.* *a tempo*

S  
A  
T  
B  
Pno.

*mf*

hour dropt us from a - bove.

*mf*

hour dropt to us from a - bove.

*mf* *p* *rit.*

Silent Noon

$\text{♩} = \text{c.}65-75$   
*mp*

62

S  
A  
Oh, clasp we to our hearts, for death - less dower, this close-com - pan - d in - ar -

T  
B  
Oh, clasp we to our hearts, for death - less dower, this close-com - pan - d in - ar -

Pno.  
*mp*

67

S  
A  
- ti - cu - late hour, When - fold si - lence was the the -

T  
B  
- ti - cu - late ho When two - fold si was the the -

Pno.  
*p rit. mp a tempo*

73

S  
A  
song love

T  
B  
song love.

Pno.