

THE MOON'S FUNERAL

For SATB Chorus, Solo Voice, and Piano

Poem by Hilaire Belloc (1870-1953)

from *Verses and Sonnets* (1896)

Music by Bruce Trinkley

THE MOON'S FUNERAL

I

*The Moon is dead. I saw her die.
She in a drifting cloud was drest,
She lay along the uncertain west,
A dream to see.
And very low she spake to me:
"I go where none may understand,
I fade into the nameless land,
And there must lie perpetually."
And therefore I,
And therefore loudly, loudly I
And high
And very piteously make cry:
"The Moon is dead. I saw her die."*

II

*And will she never rise again?
The Holy Moon? Oh, never more!
Perhaps along the inhuman shore
Where pale ghosts are
Beyond the low lethean fen
She and some wide infernal star...
To us who loved her never more,
The Moon will never rise again.
Oh! never more in nightly sky
Her eye so high shall peep and pry
To see the great world rolling by.
For why?
The Moon is dead. I saw her die.*

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Mesto $\text{♩} = 56$ *p espressivo*

Soprano The Moon is dead.____ I

Alto *p espressivo* The Moon is dead.____ I

Tenor *p espressivo* The Moon is dead.____ I

Bass *p espressivo* The Moon is dead.____ I

Piano *p cresc. sonore* *mp* *p* *poco cresc.*

4 saw her die.____ She in a drift - ing cloud was drest,____

poco cresc. *dim.* *p*

4 saw her die.____ She in a drift - ing cloud was drest,____

poco cresc. *dim.* *p*

4 saw her die.____ She in a drift - ing cloud was drest,____

poco cresc. *dim.* *p*

4 saw her die.____ She in a drift - ing cloud was drest,____

dim. *p cresc.*

7 *mf* She lay a - long the un - cer - tain west, *mp* A dream to see. *p*

7 *mf* She lay a - long the un - cer - tain west, *mp* A dream to see. *p* *pp*

8 *mf* She lay a - long the un - cer - tain west, *mp* A dream to see. *p* *pp* And

7 *mf* She lay a - long the un - cer - tain west, *mp* A dream to see. *p*

7 *mf* *mp* *p*

10 *pp* she spake to me: *pochiss. rit.* *a tempo* *sempre p* *molto legato* "I go where none may un - der -

ver - y low

8 *pp* *sempre p* *molto legato* ver - y low "I go where none may un - der -

10 *pp* She spake, she spake to me: *pochiss. rit.* *a tempo* *p* *molto legato*

13

stand, _____ I fade in - to the name - less land, _____

sempre p molto legato

"I go where none may un - der - stand, _____

stand, _____ I fade in - to the name - less land, _____

sempre p molto legato

"I go where none may un - der - stand, _____

13

15

_____ And there must lie per - pet - ual - ly." _____

_____ And there must lie per - pet - ual - ly." _____

_____ And

_____ And

15

17 *mp cresc. poco a poco*

And there - fore

mp cresc. poco a poco

And there - fore I, And there - fore

mp cresc. poco a poco

there must lie per - pet - ual - ly." And there - fore I, And there - fore

there must lie per - pet - ual - ly."

17 *cresc. poco a poco*

19

loud - ly, loud - ly I And high And ver - y pit - eous - ly make

loud - ly, loud - ly I And high And ver - y pit - eous - ly make

8 loud - ly, loud - ly I And high And ver - y pit - eous - ly make

mf cresc. poco a poco

And high And ver - y pit - eous - ly make

19

molto allarg. *a tempo*

21 *ff* *mf*

cry: "The Moon is dead. I

cry: "The Moon is dead. I

cry: "The Moon is dead. I

cry: "The Moon is dead. I

molto allarg. *a tempo*

21 *ff* *dim.*

23 *solo mp*

And

dim.

saw her die."

dim.

saw her die."

dim.

saw her die."

dim.

saw her die."

23 *mp* *p*

6

26

will she nev-er rise a - gain? _____ Per - haps a-long the in-hu-man shore

p Oh, nev - er more! Where

p The Ho - ly Moon? _____ Where

p Oh, nev - er more! Where

p The Ho - ly Moon? _____ Where

26

29

mp pale ghosts are Be - yond the low le - the - an fen

mp pale ghosts are Be - yond the low le - the - an fen

pale ghosts are

29

mp

31 *cresc. poco a poco* *molto allarg. -*

She and some wide in - fer - nal star, To us who loved her nev - er more, The

She and some wide in - fer - nal star, To us who loved her nev - er more, The

mp *cresc. poco a poco*

8 *mp* *cresc. poco a poco*

She and some wide in - fer - nal star, To us who loved her nev - er more, The

She and some wide in - fer - nal star, To us who loved her nev - er more, The

31 *molto allarg.*

She and some wide in - fer - nal star, To us who loved her nev - er more, The

33 *ff a tempo dim. poco rit.*

Moon will nev - er rise a - gain.

ff dim.

Moon will nev - er rise a - gain.

ff dim. *p espressivo*

8 Moon will nev - er rise a - gain. Oh!

ff dim. p espressivo

Moon will nev - er rise a - gain. Oh!

33 *a tempo poco rit.*

ff dim.

35 *a tempo* *p espressivo*

Her eye so high shall peep and pry To

Her eye so high shall peep and pry To

nev - er more in night - ly sky To

nev - er more in night - ly sky To

35 *a tempo* *p dolce*

37

see the great world roll - ing by.

see the great world roll - ing by.

see the great world roll - ing by.

see the great world roll - ing by.

37 *espressivo*

39 *molto allarg.* *a tempo*

The Moon is dead.

The Moon is dead.

For why? I

For why? I

39 *molto allarg.* *a tempo*

pp

pp

41 *pp* *poco rit.*

saw her die.

saw her die.

41 *poco rit.*