



Night,
Sable Goddess!

Walter S. Macfarren
(1828–1905)

Night, Sable Goddess!

W. C. Macfarren

Lento ♩ = 84

Soprano (S): Night, sa - ble god - dess! from her e - bon throne, In ray - less,

Alto (A): Night, sa - ble god - dess! from her e - bon throne, In ray - less

Tenor (T): Night, sa - ble god - dess! from her e - bon throne, In ray - less

Bass (B): Night, sa - ble god - dess! from her throne, In ray - less

Soprano (S): ray - less ma - jes - ty, now stretch - es forth Her lead - en scep - - -

Alto (A): ma - jes - ty, now stretch - es forth Her lead - en scep - tre o'er a world,

Tenor (T): ma - jes - ty, stretch - es forth Her scep - - - tre o'er a world,

Bass (B): ma - jes - ty, now stretch - es forth Her scep - - - tre o'er a world, Her lead - en

Night, Sable Goddess!

3

10

S - tre, lead - en scep - tre o'er a slum - b'ring world. Night, sa - ble
 A — scep - tre o'er a slum - b'ring world. Night, sa - ble
 T — Her lead - en scep - tre o'er a slum - b'ring world. Night, sa - ble
 B scep - tre o'er a slum - b'ring world. Night, sa - ble

15

S god - dess! from her e - bon throne, stretch - es forth Her lead - en
 A god - dess! from her e - bon throne, stretch - es Her
 T god - dess! from her e - bon throne, stretch - es forth Her lead - en
 B god - dess! from her throne, now stretch - es forth Her

19

S scep - tre o'er a slum - b'ring world.
 A scep - tre o'er a slum - b'ring world.
 T scep - tre o'er a slum - b'ring world.
 B scep - tre o'er a slum - b'ring world.

Night, Oable Goddess!

22

Soprano (S) Alto (A) Tenor (T) Bass (B)

p *cresc.* *cresc.*

Si - lence how dead! And dark - ness how pro - found! Nor eye, nor

p *cresc.* *cresc.*

Si - lence how dead! And dark - ness pro - found! Nor eye, nor

p *cresc.* *cresc.*

Si - lence how dead! And dark - ness pro - found! Nor eye, nor

p *cresc.* *cresc.*

Si - lence how dead! And dark - ness pro - found! Nor eye, nor

27

Soprano (S) Alto (A) Tenor (T) Bass (B)

p *pp* *pp*

lis - t'ning ear an ob - ject finds; Cre - a - tion sleeps, Cre -

p *pp* *pp*

lis - t'ning ear an ob - ject finds; Cre - a - tion sleeps, Cre -

p *pp* *pp*

ear an ob - ject finds; Cre - a - tion sleeps, Cre -

p *pp* *pp*

lis - t'ning ear an ob - ject finds; Cre - a - tion sleeps, Cre -

32

Soprano (S) Alto (A) Tenor (T) Bass (B)

p *p* *p*

a - tion sleeps. _____

p *p* *p*

a - tion sleeps. _____ 'Tis as the gen - 'ral pulse Of life stood still, and Na - ture

p *p* *p*

a - tion sleeps. _____ 'Tis as the gen - 'ral pulse Of life stood still, and Na - ture

p *p* *p*

a - tion sleeps. _____ 'Tis as the gen - 'ral pulse stood still, and Na - ture

Night, Oable Goddess!

5

37

Soprano (S): 'Tis as the gen - 'ral pulse Of life stood still, and Na - ture
Alto (A): made a pause; 'Tis as the gen - 'ral pulse Of life stood still, and Na - ture
Tenor (T): made a pause; 'Tis as the gen - 'ral pulse Of life stood still, and Na - ture
Bass (B): made a pause; 'Tis as the gen - 'ral pulse Of life stood still, and Na - ture

41

Soprano (S): made a pause; An aw - ful pause! Pro -
Alto (A): made a pause; An aw - ful pause! Pro -
Tenor (T): made a pause; An aw - ful pause! Pro - phe - tic of her
Bass (B): made a pause; An aw - ful pause! Pro -

45

Soprano (S): phe - tic of her end. An aw - ful pause!
Alto (A): phe - tic of her end. An aw - ful pause!
Tenor (T): end. An aw - ful pause!
Bass (B): phe - tic of her end. An aw - ful pause!

Night, Sable Goddess!

49

S Night, sa - ble god - dess! from her e - bon throne, In ray - less, ray - less

A Night, sa - ble god - dess! from her e - bon throne, In ray - less ma - jes - ty, now

T Night, sa - ble god - dess! from her e - bon throne, In ray - less ma - - jes -

B Night, sa - ble god - dess! from her throne, In ray - less ma - jes - ty, now

54

S ma - jes - ty, now stretch - es forth Her scep - tre o'er a world, _____ Her lead - en

A stretch - es forth Her lead - en scep - tre o'er a world, _____ scep - tre

T ty, stretch - es forth Her scep - tre o'er a world, _____ Her lead - en

B stretch - es forth Her scep - - tre o'er a world, Her lead - en scep - - tre

59

S scep - tre o'er a slum - b'ring world. Night, sa - ble god - dess!

A o'er _____ a slum - b'ring world. Night, sa - ble god - dess!

T scep - - tre o'er _____ a world. Night, sa - ble god - dess!

B o'er a slum - b'ring world. Night, sa - ble god - dess!

Night, Oable Goddess!

7

64

S from her e - bon throne, In ray - less ma - jes - ty, now stretch - es forth her lead - en
A from her throne, In ma - jes - ty, stretch - es forth her scep - tre
T from her throne, stretch - es forth her lead - en scep - - tre
B from her throne, stretch - es forth her scep - - tre

69

S scep - tre o'er a world, a slum - b'ring world, a slum - b'ring world.
A o'er a world, a slum - b'ring world, a slum - b'ring world.
T o'er a world, slum - b'ring world, slum - b'ring world.
B o'er a world, a slum - b'ring world, a slum - b'ring world.

Novello, Ewer, and Company
(1869-1885)

Walter Cecil Macfarren (1826–1905) was in London, the younger brother of one of the leading Victorian composers, George Alexander Macfarren. He was a chorister at Westminster Abbey and sang at Queen Victoria's coronation. He had thoughts of becoming an artist, taking lessons in painting, but entered the Royal Academy of Music, studying the pianoforte and composition. He became a sub-professor of the pianoforte and was on the staff of the Royal Academy fifty-seven years. Macfarren was musical critic for the 'Queen' newspaper from 1862 until his death. He was chiefly concerned with teaching the piano and had some distinction as a conductor. He suffered from weak eyesight, but did not become totally blind, as did his brother. He composed many small pianoforte pieces and choral works, including two church services and many part-songs. He wrote no large-scale choral or dramatic works and wrote only a limited amount of orchestral music.

Night, sable goddess! from her ebon throne,
In rayless majesty, now stretches forth
Her leaden sceptre o'er a slumbering world.

Silence how dead! And darkness how profound!
Nor eye, nor listening ear an object finds;
Creation sleeps.

'Tis as the general pulse
Of life stood still, and Nature made a pause;
An awful pause! Prophetic of her end.

“Night Thoughts”
Edward Young (1684-1765)

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