

30152637
30152638 (PDF)

Belovèd, Sleep Well
SATB Choir, Descant, Keyboard, Guitar,
Oboe, Assembly (includes Hymn Version)

Ephrem Feeley/Alan J. Hommerding

OCF CHORAL SERIES

Belovèd, Sleep Well

Music by
Ephrem Feeley

Text by
Alan J. Hommerding

Preview

Belovèd, Sleep Well

Based on *Ruht wohl, ihr heiligen Gebeine*,
Barthold Heinrich Brockes, 1680–1747;
Adapt. Alan J. Hommerding

Ephrem Feeley

INTRO *Tenderly* (♩ = 72)

Oboe *mp*

Keyboard *mp*

Em B/F# D#°7 Em/D Cmaj7 F#°7/C C B B7

5 E E7 Am/E A°/E Emaj7 E

9 E/G# Am F#°/A B Em/B B7 C Am/C

13 D#°7 Em B7 C A#°7 Em/B B E

Text © 2020, Alan J. Hommerding. Music © 2023, Ephrem Feeley. Text and music published by OCP. All rights reserved. This edition © 2024.

Edition 30152637

Printed in USA

VERSE 1

mf
Soprano

18

Alto

1. Be - lo - ved, sleep well, — though you slum - ber in death. — Dream

Tenor

Bass

mf

B7 Em C/E B7 Esus4 Em G/D A B7sus4 B

22

1. not of that place where you gave your last breath. — My

Em/G D/F# Cmaj7/E A⁷/D# Bm/D

26

1. mourn - ing, my tears, — by your Pas - sion are blessed; — Be -

C#7(b5) Am/C B7sus4 B7 Em7 A7

Beloved, Sleep Well

30

1. lo - vèd, sleep well, bring me al - so to rest.

Am7 Gmaj7/B A#°7/C# Em7/B Bm7 Esus4 Em B/F#

35

D#°7 E7/D A/C# Am/C B7 Em(add9) Em E/G# Am B7

41

C B/D# Em B7 C A#°7 Em/B B7 E

mp

VERSE 2

47

mf

Descant *mf*

2. Oo. _____ You'll

mf

2. Be - lo - vèd, sleep well, ___ in the stone - co-vered cave. ___ You'll

mf

B7 Em B7 Esus4 Em G/D A B7sus4 B

51

2. suf - fer no more; I find there a

2. suf - fer no more, in your bleak, bor-rowed grave; ___ I find there a

Em/G D/F# Cmaj7/E A⁷/D# Bm/D C#7(b5)

56

2. hea - ven that si - len - ces Hell— The gates o - pen

2. heav'n, that si - len - ces Hell— the gates o - pen

Am/C B7sus4 B Em7 A7 Am7 Gmaj7/B

60

f *mp*

2. wide! Sleep well.

f *mp*

2. wide! My Be - lo - vèd, sleep well.

f *mp*

A#°7/C# Em7/B B7 Esus4 Em A#°7 Em/B B

The image shows a musical score for a piece titled 'Belovèd, Sleep Well'. It consists of four systems of music. The first system (measures 56-59) features a vocal line with two parts: '2. hea - ven that si - len - ces Hell— The gates o - pen' and '2. heav'n, that si - len - ces Hell— the gates o - pen'. Below the vocal lines is a piano accompaniment with chords labeled Am/C, B7sus4, B, Em7, A7, Am7, and Gmaj7/B. The second system (measures 60-63) continues the vocal lines with '2. wide! Sleep well.' and '2. wide! My Be - lo - vèd, sleep well.'. The piano accompaniment in this system has dynamic markings *f* and *mp* and chords labeled A#°7/C#, Em7/B, B7, Esus4, Em, A#°7, Em/B, and B. A large 'PREVIEW' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the entire page.

Belovèd, Sleep Well

64

E Am/E A°7/E Esus4 E

Preview

Belovèd, Sleep Well

(Hymn Version)

Based on *Ruht wohl, ihr heiligen Gebeine*,
Barthold Heinrich Brockes, 1680–1747;
Adapt. Alan J. Hommerding

Ephrem Feeley

Descant (Verse 2)

2. Oo. ————— You'll

B7 Em B7 Esus4 Em G/D A B7sus4 B

Soprano

Alto

1. Be - lo - vèd, sleep well, — though you slum - ber in death. — Dream
2. Be - lo - vèd, sleep well, — in the stone - co - vered cave. — You'll

Tenor

Bass

Keyboard

2. suf - fer no more; I

Em/G D/F# Cmaj7/E A ϕ 7/D# Bm/D

1. not of that place where you gave your last breath. — My
2. su - fer no more, in your bleak, bor - rowed grave; — I

2. find there a hea - ven that si - len - ces Hell— The

C#7(b5) Am/C B7sus4 B7 Em7 A7

1. mourn - ing, my tears, by your Pas - sion are blessed; Be -
 2. find there a heav'n that si - len - ces Hell— The

2. gates o - pen wide! Sleep well.

Am7 Gmaj7/B A#°7/C# Em7/B B7 Esus4 Em

1. lo - ved, sleep well, bring me al - so to rest.
 2. gates o - pen wide! My Be - lo - ved, sleep well.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Beloved, Sleep Well'. It consists of four systems of music. Each system includes a vocal line (treble clef), a piano accompaniment (grand staff), and guitar chords. The first system has two vocal lines: '2. find there a heaven that silences Hell— The' and '1. mourning, my tears, by your Passion are blessed; Be - 2. find there a heav'n that si - len - ces Hell— The'. The second system has two vocal lines: '2. gates o - pen wide! Sleep well.' and '1. lo - ved, sleep well, bring me al - so to rest. 2. gates o - pen wide! My Be - lo - ved, sleep well.'. The guitar chords are: C#7(b5), Am/C, B7sus4, B7, Em7, A7, Am7, Gmaj7/B, A#°7/C#, Em7/B, B7, Esus4, Em.

Belovèd, Sleep Well

OBOE

Ephrem Feeley

INTRO *Tenderly* (♩ = ca. 72)

mp

VERSE 1

18 15
...also to rest.

VERSE 2

mf

f

mp

© 2023, Ephrem Feeley. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

Note: This part for oboe is for use with the full choral version that begins on page 2.

Textwriter Notes

A few years ago, I was asked to provide a text to conclude a musical setting of the St. John Passion. I'd long been an admirer of the 18th century German text *Ruht wohl* by Berthold Brockes (used by Bach in his *St. John Passion*), and so decided to use that as my starting point. *Belovèd, Sleep Well* is the text that resulted. I intentionally wanted to observe the brevity of the original, which nevertheless conveys the profound emotional depths of Christ's Passion, along with the deeply intimate connection binding us to it.

—Alan J. Hommerding

Composer Notes

On Good Friday 2022, Alan shared a text for Passiontide that he had written. *Belovèd, Sleep Well* was a reworking of the text of *Ruht wohl*, one of the most beautiful choruses in Bach's *St. John Passion*. By that evening, my own hymn setting of this sublime, moving text was complete, but as it was just two verses, Alan suggested that it might be extended through interludes and a long introduction.

It took nearly a year, but on Holy Thursday 2023, I completed the full version of the hymn, scoring it for assembly, SATB choir (and descant), with organ and oboe obbligato accompaniment. The lengthy introduction and interlude use a theme based on the first notes of Bach's chorus—a nod to its genesis. There are hints of the vocal writing of Peter Warlock in the chorale, creating an interesting marriage of influences.

In performance, this piece works well with just organ accompaniment (though the addition of the oboe gives a greater pathos), and it would work well with full choir, or just solo. If desired, the hymn setting can be sung unaccompanied in its entirety first, before then moving into the full version.

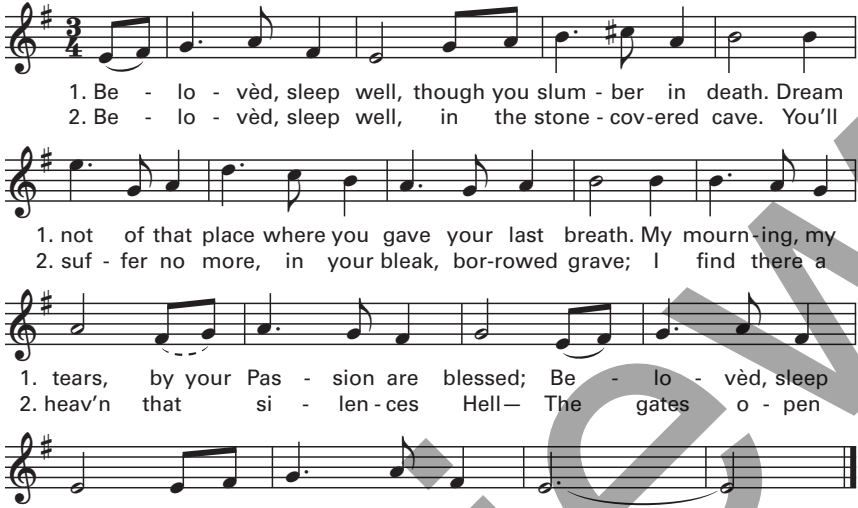
—Ephrem Feeley

PREVIEW

Assembly Edition

BELOVED, SLEEP WELL

Ephrem Feeley



1. Be - lo - ved, sleep well, though you slum - ber in death. Dream
2. Be - lo - ved, sleep well, in the stone - cov - ered cave. You'll

1. not of that place where you gave your last breath. My mourn - ing, my
2. suf - fer no more, in your bleak, bor - rowed grave; I find there a

1. tears, by your Pas - sion are blessed; Be - lo - ved, sleep
2. heav'n that si - len - ces Hell— The gates o - pen

1. well, bring me al - so to rest.
2. wide! My Be - lo - ved, sleep well.

Text based on *Ruht wohl, ihr heiligen Gebeine*, Barthold Heinrich Brockes, 1680–1747;
adapt. Alan J. Hommerding © 2020, Alan J. Hommerding. Music © 2023, Ephrem Feeley.
Text and music published by OCP. All rights reserved.

For reprint permissions, please visit OneLicense.net or contact us at 1-800-663-1501.

