

*Dedicated to Adele Leigh*

## 7. THE BIRD'S SONG

(Original key F major)



Words from the Book of Psalms

R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

*Andante tranquillo* (♩ = 56) *p dolce*

Voice

The

Piano

*p dolce*

Lord \_\_\_\_\_ is my shep - herd: \_ there - fore can I lack

no - thing. \_\_\_\_\_ He mak - eth me to lie

*Note:* This is a concert version of the song, and differs slightly from that given in the Morality 'The Pilgrim's Progress' by the same composer.

down in green — pas - tures: he lead - eth

me — be - side the still — wa - ters. —

He re - stor - eth my soul: he lead - eth me in the

paths of right - eous - ness for his name's sake. —

*p*

Yea, though I walk through the val - ley of the sha-dow of death,

The first system of the musical score features a vocal line in G major with a key signature of one flat (F major) and a 6/8 time signature. The lyrics are "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,". The piano accompaniment consists of two staves, with the right hand playing chords and the left hand playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Dynamics include piano (*p*) and trills (*tr*). There are also some doublets (marked with a '2') in the piano part.

(♩ = previous ♩.)

I will fear no ev - il: for thou art with me; —

The second system continues the vocal line with the lyrics "I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; —". The piano accompaniment continues with similar textures. A note in the vocal line is marked with a note head and a stem, with a note below it indicating it is equal to the previous note. The piano part includes doublets and trills.

thy rod and thy staff they com-fort

The third system features the lyrics "thy rod and thy staff they com-fort". The piano accompaniment becomes more active with chords in the right hand and a steady eighth-note pattern in the left hand. Dynamics include piano (*p*).

*f dolce*

me. Sure - - - ly

*f dolce*

The fourth system begins with the lyrics "me. Sure - - - ly". The piano accompaniment features a prominent bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand. Dynamics include piano (*p*) and piano-forte (*f*) with a soft (*dolce*) character.

good-ness and mer - cy shall fol - low me all the

*p*

days of my life: \_\_\_\_\_ and I will dwell in the

(♩. = previous ♩)

house of the Lord\_ for ev - - - er.

*p*

*pp*