

Sonnet: On seeing a Piece of our Heavy Artillery Brought into Action

Text taken from The Poems of Wilfred Owen. Ed Jon Stallworthy. Published by Chatto & Windus 1990.

Wilfred Owen

James Crawford

♩ = 45

f
Be slow-ly lif-ted up thou long black arm,

mf

6

Great gun to-we-ring towards Hea-ven a-bout to curse; Sway steep a-

p cresc.

8

11

cresc.

gainst them and for years re-hear-se huge im-pre-ca-tions like a bla-

ff

cresc.

- sting charm. *mp cresc.* Reach at that a-rro-gance which needs thy

dim. p cresc.

f ff p cresc.
harm and beat it down be - fore its sins grow worse. Spend our re -

f p cresc.

(cresc.) f cresc. ff cresc.
sent-ment ca-nnon yea dis-burse our gold in shapes of flame our breaths in

(cresc.) mf

29

fff sto - o - rm. *mp* Yet for me - n's sakes *mf* whom thy vast ma - li-son must

34

wi ther inn - o - cent of en - mi - ty, *f* be not with-drawn *cresc.* dark arm thy

39

ff spoi - lure do - ne, safe to the bo - som of our *mp* pro - sper - i - ty.

44

 $\text{♩} = 41$

But when thy spell be cast com-plete and

pp *cresc.* *fff*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 44 through 47. The vocal line is in the bass clef with a key signature of two flats. Measure 44 has a whole rest. Measure 45 begins with a half note G2, followed by quarter notes A2, Bb2, and C3. Measure 46 has quarter notes D3, E3, and F3. Measure 47 has quarter notes G3, A3, and Bb3. The piano accompaniment is in the grand staff. The left hand plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and sixteenth notes. The right hand features chords and moving lines. Dynamics include *pp* (pianissimo), *cresc.* (crescendo), and *fff* (fortississimo).

48

 $\text{♩} = 22$

whole, *p* May God curse thee and cut thee fro - m our

p

Detailed description: This system contains measures 48 through 51. The vocal line is in the bass clef. Measure 48 has a half note G2. Measure 49 has a half note A2. Measure 50 has a half note Bb2. Measure 51 has a half note C3. The piano accompaniment is in the grand staff. The left hand plays chords and moving lines. The right hand features chords and moving lines. Dynamics include *p* (piano).

52

soul.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 52 and 53. The vocal line is in the bass clef. Measure 52 has a whole note G2. Measure 53 has a whole note A2. The piano accompaniment is in the grand staff. The left hand plays a long, sustained note. The right hand features a long, sustained note. Dynamics include *p* (piano).