

Cameron McArthur

The Calm Estate of Grief

for guitar and fixed media

2022

Performance Notes

- The performer should be able to hear the media as they play, using in-ear monitors or similar. A version of the media with an additional click track is provided to assist with synchronisation. The audience should *not* hear the click.
- Diamond noteheads indicate natural harmonics. Some harmonics have string and position suggestions; any position or string that produces the required pitch is acceptable. Microtonal discrepancies between just intonation and equal temperament can be ignored (in, fact, they are welcomed!).

A musical staff with five lines. A diamond-shaped notehead is positioned on the second line from the bottom.
- Square noteheads indicate approximate pitch

A musical staff with five lines. A square-shaped notehead is positioned on the second line from the bottom.
- Symbols in the media part are purely descriptive, to help the performer relate the sound to the score. For example: 'shaking, rustling', and 'bells'

A symbol consisting of a wavy line above four vertical lines of varying heights, resembling a stylized representation of sound or movement.

Folded Power

SORROW can wait,
For there is magic in the calm estate
Of grief; lo, where the dust complies
Wisdom lies.

Sorrow can rest,
Indifferent, with her head upon her breast;
Idle and hushed, guarded from fears;
Content with tears.

Sorrow can bide,
With sealèd lids and hands unoccupied.
Sorrow can fold her latent might,
Dwelling with night.

But Sorrow will rise
From her dream of sombre and hushed eternities.
Lifting a Child, she will softly move
With a mother's love.

She will softly rise.
Her embrace the dying will recognize,
Lifting them gently through strange delight
To a clearer light.

Gladys Cromwell
March 1918

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① = E $\flat$ ④ = D
② = B ⑤ = A
③ = F ⑥ = D

quietly volatile; quasi improvised (♩ =56)

Guitar

let ring V p *con rubato* I.v. sim. (V)

⑥ ③

Fixed Media

reversed harmonic ppp mf pp unpitched percussive sounds rustling, shaking, tapping distant rumble, reversed harmonics loose pedal tone approximate pitch ppp

Gtr.

5 3 ② ③ IV

Media

mp pp *cresc.*

Gtr.

10 VII XII ③ ① 3

Media

15

Gtr.

V VII IV

② ① ③

Media

mp

20

Gtr.

3

+ bells

Media

mf

25

Gtr.

V

5 ⑤

3

+ bells

Media

f

28

Gtr.

intensifying

VII

① (① = E)

(③ = G)

Media

intensifying

+ distortion

32

Gtr.

Media

④ ③ sim.

increasing distortion

mf

34

Gtr.

Media

reversed bells, quasi suspended cymbal

pp

A delicate, with more movement ($\text{♩} = 68$)

36

Gtr.

Media

mf

(reverb decay)

pp

41

Gtr.

Media

light trem, with flesh of finger

f *mp* *pp*

ring-modulated kalimba

mp

43

Gtr. *mf*

Media

reversed spectral swell (approximate pitch)

pp ————— *f*

46

Gtr. *p sub.*

Media

48

Gtr. *f* *mp* *p* *poco accel.*

Media

B expanding ♩=82
with flesh of finger, sul tasto

51

Gtr. *mf* *p* ————— *pp*

Media

kalimba

bitcrushed, pitch-shifted guitar

flowing, with energy (♩=82)
internal melody (bring out as much as possible)

Gtr. 53

sim.

p *mf*

Media

Gtr. 55

p *f*

Media

Gtr. 56

p *f*

Media

ppp *p*

59

Gtr.

Media

pp *f*

mf *pp*

processed guitar

p

61

Gtr.

Media

p *mf* *p*

reversed harmonic (reverb decay)

ppp *mf* *pp*

processed guitar

mf *p*

64

Gtr.

Media

f

f

distorted and angry

Gtr. 66

Media

p

ff

Gtr. 68

Media

f

f

Gtr. 71

Media

p

(reverb decay)

73

Gtr.

Media

reversed harmonics

pp

mf *ppp* *mf*

0

0

75

Gtr.

Media

reversed harmonic

f

ppp *f* *ppp* *mf*

rall.

5

3

5

77

Gtr.

Media

distant rumble, reversed harmonics
loose pedal tone
approximate pitch

Deep pedal

mp *f*

pppp *ff* *mp* *8vb*

3

3

5

3

Gtr. *mp* *espress.*
poco vibrato (non troppo)
+ rustling

Media

(8).....

Gtr. *mf*

Media

normal and reversed bells

p

(8).....

Gtr. *mp*

Media

(8).....

Gtr.

Media

reversed harmonic

ppp — *mf* *ppp* — *mf*

ppp

(8).....