THE LAST INVOCATION for tenor & piano

PROGRAMME NOTES

A beautiful text by Whitman describing the soul's release from earthly bonds. This setting is available in two versions both for tenor; the original accompaniment is scored for flute, oboe, viola and cello accompaniment, and the second version offers an alternative piano reduction.

The Last Invocation

At the last, tenderly,
From the walls of the powerful fortress'd house,
From the clasp of the knitted locks, from the keep of the
well-closed doors,
Let me be wafted.

Let me glide noiselessly forth; With the key of softness unlock the locks – with a whisper, Set ope the doors O soul.

Tenderly – be not impatient, (Strong is your hold O mortal flesh, Strong is your hold O love.)

Walt Whitman