

Care-charming sleep

Poem by John Fletcher

Robert Johnson

Not too fast

Care-charming sleep, thou eas-er of all woes,

5

Bro-ther of Death, sweet-ly thy-self dis-pose On this af-lict-

10

ed wight; fall like a cloud in gen-tle show'rs; give noth-ing that is

15

loud, Or pain-ful to his slum-bers, but eas-y, sweet, And

20

as a pur-ling stream, thou son of Night, Pass by his trou- bled

BII

25

sen- ses; sing his pain hol- low mur- mur- ing wind, or sil-

BIII

30

ver rain, In- to this Prince gent- ly, O gent- ly O

BII

gent- ly slide, And kiss him in- to slum- ber like

BII

35

The image shows a musical score for a vocal line and lute accompaniment. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat. The lute accompaniment is in bass clef. The score is divided into two systems, each with first and second endings. The lyrics are 'a' and 'bride.'.

Lyrics: a, a, a, a, a, bride.

Accompaniment: 4 e, a, a, 4 e, a, a, a.

Figured bass: 1 r, a, a, a, a, a, a.

First ending: 1, 2, 1, 2.

Second ending: 1, 2, 1, 2.

Figured bass for second ending: a, a, a, a.

"The Tragedy of Valentinian" (1614) deals with the vengeance of Maximus, a general under Valentinian III, for the dishonour of his wife by the emperor, and her suicide. A dense web of intrigue and treachery results in the slow death of Valentinian by poisoning (to the accompaniment of the well-known lyric 'Care charming sleep'), and the subsequent death of Maximus, poisoned, again to musical accompaniment, by the widowed empress Eudoxa, as he is inaugurated as Valentinian's successor.