

# Care-charming sleep

Poem by John Fletcher

Robert Johnson

Not too fast

Care- charm- ing sleep, thou eas- er of all woes,

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

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

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

4 **f** **d** **a** **b** **r** **e** **f** **a** **b** **d** **a**

[25]

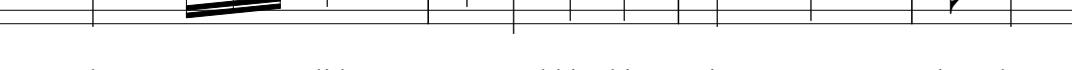
sen-ses; sing his pain hol-low mur- mur- ing wind, or sil-

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  


Sheet music for guitar, page 35, measures 1-6. The music is in common time (indicated by 'C' at the top right). The key signature has one sharp (F#) and one flat (B), indicated by a circle with a sharp sign and a circle with a flat sign respectively. The first measure starts with a C major chord (G, B, D) followed by an A minor chord (E, G, B). The second measure shows a transition with a G major chord (D, G, B) and an E major chord (B, D, G). The third measure begins with an A minor chord (E, G, B) followed by a G major chord (D, G, B). The fourth measure features an E major chord (B, D, G) and a G major chord (D, G, B). The fifth measure starts with an A minor chord (E, G, B) followed by a G major chord (D, G, B). The sixth measure concludes with an E major chord (B, D, G).

"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.