

## WITHDRAWAL OF LIGHT

*Elizabeth I to her Favourite:*

I was the Queen, the fixed star of my age,  
And all around me moved as round the sun.  
Yes, other women shone, but only one  
Stood at the very center of the stage.

I sent you off to Ireland to subdue  
The Irish rabble under Hugh O'Neill.  
You turned against me, and your act revealed  
A treachery so great that light withdrew,

And I stood darkened - I, the Queen of Light  
Who once sent Drake to navigate the earth,  
In whom the praise of poets found its birth -  
My light extinguished, and day entered night.

Now you are dead, and all my glory gone:  
The day is nighttime, and the queen - a pawn.

Margaret Hardy

In 1601, Elizabeth (1533-1603) ordered the beheading of Robert Devereux, 2nd Earl of Essex, after he repeatedly defied her.

# WITHDRAWAL OF LIGHT

Poem by Margaret Hardy

Very Slowly  $\text{♩} = 52$  *mf* Glenn Hardy

Voice

Harpisichord

Cello

1

2x8

1

*mf*

I was the queen the

4

fixed star of my age And all a - round me

4

6

moved as round the sun. Yes, oth - er wo-men shone,

6

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for three instruments: Voice, Harpsichord, and Cello. It is in common time (C) and B-flat major. The tempo is 'Very Slowly' with a metronome marking of quarter note = 52. The dynamic is 'mf' (mezzo-forte). The score is divided into three systems. The first system (measures 1-3) shows the voice part starting with 'I was the queen the'. The harpsichord part has a '2x8' marking, indicating a specific fingering or articulation. The cello part starts with a '1' marking. The second system (measures 4-5) continues the voice part with 'fixed star of my age And all a - round me'. The third system (measures 6-7) continues with 'moved as round the sun. Yes, oth - er wo-men shone,'. The harpsichord and cello parts provide accompaniment throughout.

8

but on - ly one stood at the ve - ry cen - ter of the

11

stage. I sent you off to Ire-land to sub-due

14

The I - rish rab-ble un - der Hugh O' Neill.

16

You turned a-against me, and your act re-vealed A

16

16

18

treacher-y so great that light with-drew, And I stood

18

2x8, 1x4

*piu mosso*

18

Faster ♩ = 112

21

dark - ened I, the Queen of light Who once sent

21

21

25 Drake to nav - i - gate the earth, In whom the

29 praise of poets found it's birth - - My

32 light ex - tin - guished, and day en - tered night.

36 Tempo 1

36

2x8

tr

39

*mf*

Now you are dead, and all my glo - ry gone:

39

tr

39

42

*rit.*

The day is night-time, and the queen - a pawn.

42

tr

42

rit.

42

rit.