

Silent Noon ['sa:ɪ.lənt nʌn]

Text by *Dante Gabriel Rossetti* (1828-1882) [Br]

Set by *Henry Clough-Leigher* (1874-1956) [Am], from *The Day of Beauty*; *Frederick Shepherd Converse* (1871-1940) [Am]; *Ralph Vaughan Williams* (1872-1958) [Br] from *The House of Life*, #2

Your hands lie open in the long fresh grass,
[jɔɹ hændz la:ɪ 'o:ʊ.pən ɪn ðə lɑŋ frɛʃ grɑ(ə)s]

The finger-points look through like rosy blooms:
[ðə 'fɪŋ.gɛ.ɹɔ:ɪnts lʊk θru la:ɪ 'ro:ʊ.zi blʌmz]

Your eyes smile peace. The pasture gleams and glooms
'Neath billowing clouds (skies) that scatter and amass.
All round our nest, far as the eye can pass,
Are golden kingcup fields with silver edge,
Where the cow-parsley skirts the hawthorn hedge.
'Tis visible silence, still as the hourglass.

Deep in the sun-searched growths the dragon-fly
Hangs like a blue thread loosened from the sky:
So this winged hour is dropt to us from above.
Oh! clasp we to our hearts, for deathless dower,
This close-companioned inarticulate hour
When twofold silence was the song of love.

The entire text to this title with the complete
IPA transcription is available for download.

Thank you!

