

RWS DEVELOPING STRINGS SERIES

Grade: 2

Conductor Score: RWS-2682-01

Sleep in Heavenly Peace

(Silent Night)

Steve Parsons

RWS

DEVELOPING STRINGS SERIES

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(Silent Night)

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INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score.....	1
Violin 1.....	8
Violin 2.....	8
Viola.....	6
Cello.....	5
Double Bass.....	5

PROGRAM NOTE

Sleep In Heavenly Peace is a moving tribute to the composer's late aunt and uncle, who were an important part of his childhood holiday experience. Shimmering textures and a rich harmonic treatment decorate the familiar *Silent Night* tune as it is passed from section to section, framed by an accompaniment reminiscent of twinkling stars in the night sky. Feel the peace of a holiday night with this heartfelt work.

NOTES TO CONDUCTOR

This piece requires careful balance throughout. The main figure stated by Violin 1 at the beginning should always be light and smooth whenever it appears, so it's in contrast to the pizzicato elsewhere. In general, it's important to ensure the familiar *Silent Night* melody is clear as it moves through the sections. While Violin 2 and Viola start in unison on the melody at measure 9, make sure that the Violins are prominent at measure 13 as they continue with the tune and the Violas go to harmony. Additionally, there are several sections where legato quarter note moving lines need to be brought out, particularly in the Viola at measures 27-28 and in Violin 2/Viola at measures 53-54.

Please visit my composer page at rwsmusic.com to connect!

ABOUT THE COMPOSER



Steve Parsons is an award-winning composer, orchestrator, and music director. Among his many composing credits are: *Evensong* (for Choir and Orchestra), *Distant Thunder*, *Seascapes*, *Frankenstein: The Puppet Opera* (Translations Art Gallery), *Visions* (an oratorio), *College Slam* (video game, Akklaim), and numerous commissions for symphony orchestra, wind ensemble, and choral ensembles.

An experienced arranger for marching bands and show choirs throughout the United States and Canada, many of his original works and arrangements have been featured in national championships and state contest lists, including several Outstanding Music awards at Bands of America finals, and numerous featured works on both J.W. Pepper's "Editor's Choice" list, and Bandworld's Top 100.

Steve's musical adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* is published by Broadway Licensing in New York and has enjoyed performances at The Players Guild Theatre (15 seasons), New York (Off-Off Broadway), Los Angeles, and Vietnam (The International Choir and Orchestra of Ho Chi Minh City).

As an orchestrator, he has arranged the Grateful Dead musical *Cumberland Blues* (NYMF, NY), *Life Could Be A Dream* (Additional vocal arrangements/orchestrations, LA), *It's A Wonderful Life* (Regional), and *Footloose* (Additional vocal arrangements/orchestrations, Rodgers & Hammerstein Library).

His other credits include: *Nonsense* and *Nonsense A-Men!* (music preparation, NY), *The Tick* (member of the "Tickestra," FOX), and *Defying Gravity: The Creative Career of Stephen Schwartz* (consultant and contributor, Applause Books).

Steve has both Bachelor of Music and Master of Arts degrees in composition from Kent State University and is a member of ASCAP and the Dramatists Guild of America.

In memory of Reverend Ken and Irene Parsons

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

(Silent Night)

Conductor Score

RWS-2682-00

Quietly and Reflectively $\text{♩} = 76$

Steve Parsons

(ASCAP)

Violin 1 *mp*

Violin 2 *p*

Viola *p*

Cello *pizz.* *p*

Double Bass

1 2 3 4 5

Vln. 1 *p* *mp* *p*

Vln. 2 *p* *mp* *p*

Vla. *p* *mp* *p*

Vc. *arco* *mp* *pizz.* *p*

D. B. *p* *mp* *pizz.* *p*

rit. **9** *a tempo* *pizz.*

6 7 8 9 10

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D. B.

11 12 13 14 15

17

musical score for measures 16-20, including parts for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D. B. with dynamic markings like *mp* and *arco*.

musical score for measures 21-25, including parts for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D. B. with dynamic markings like *mp* and *arco*.

musical score for measures 26-30, including parts for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D. B. with dynamic markings like *mf*, *p*, and *rit.*

a tempo *rit.* **35** *a tempo*

Vln. 1 *mp* *p*

Vln. 2 *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *pizz.* *mp*

D. B. *pizz.*

31 32 33 34 35

Detailed description: This system contains measures 31 through 35. It features five staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure 31 starts with a *mp* dynamic. Measure 32 has a *pizz.* marking for the cello and double bass. Measure 33 has a *rit.* marking. Measure 34 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 35 has a boxed measure number '35' and a *a tempo* marking. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

Vln. 1 *p*

Vln. 2 *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

D. B. *p*

36 37 38 39 40 41 42

Detailed description: This system contains measures 36 through 42. It features five staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure 36 starts with a *p* dynamic. Measure 42 includes fingering numbers 3 and 1 above the notes. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

43

Vln. 1 *mf*

Vln. 2 *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

D. B. *mf*

43 44 45 46 47 48

Detailed description: This system contains measures 43 through 48. It features five staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure 43 starts with a boxed measure number '43' and a *mf* dynamic. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
D. B.

mp
mp
mp
mf
mp

49 50 51 52 53

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
D. B.

f *mp* *mp* *p*
f *mp* *p*
f *mf* *p*
f *mp* *mf* *mp*
f *mp* *p*

rit. 4 *a tempo*

54 55 56 57 58

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
D. B.

p *mp* *mp* *mf* *p*
mp *p* *mp* *p*
pizz. *arco* *mp* *p*
p *arco* *mp* *p*
p *mp* *p*

rit.

59 60 61 62 63 64