

## **The Swan**

*a setting for voice and piano of an  
Old English riddle,  
in a transliteration by the composer*

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Old English riddle,  
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Hregl min swigath thonne ic hrusan trède  
ðthe tha wic buye ðthe wadð dréfe  
hwilum mec ahebbath ðver haletha büxt  
hürste mine and thées hée lüft  
and mec thonne wide wòlcna strengu  
ðver folc büreth; fratwe mine  
swogath hlude and swinsiath  
tòrxte singath thonne ic yetenge ne béem  
flode and fòldan férende gast.

My garments fall silent  
when I tread the earth,  
inhabit my dwelling  
or stir the water.  
Sometimes I'm raised high  
over the homes of men  
by my ornaments  
and the lofty air,  
and then far and wide  
by the power of the clouds  
above the people I'm borne -  
my instruments  
resound loudly  
and melodiously,  
splendidly sing  
when I'm not resting on  
water or earth:  
a souring spirit.

## Key to the transliteration

a	short [as English sat ] or long	[as English father]	c	soft [as English church, or Italian c(i)]
e	neutral [as English about]		j	[as English judge]
é	closed [as German See]		g	hard [as Italian gh]
è	open [as English egg]		x	[German ch]
i	short [as English sit] or long	[as English weed]	sh	[English sh]
o	closed [as German Sohn]		th	[English th] unvoiced, or voiced between vowels
ò	open [as English hot]		s	unvoiced, or voiced between vowels
u	[as English full]		y	[English y]
ü	[German ü]			

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# Swan Song

Edward Lambert

Andantino  $\bullet = 52$

High voice

Hre - gl min swi - gath

Piano

*p*

4

thon-ne ic hru - san trè - - de

8

o - the

*f*

*p*

11

tha wic bu - ye o - the wa - - - do dré - fe

15

hwi - um mec a-heb-bath o-ver

18

ha - le-tha büxt hür - ste mi - ne and thé - os

20

hé - e lüft and mec thon-ne

22 23

wi - - - - de wolc - na stren-gu o - ver folc bür-eth;

frat - - - - we mi - ne swo - - - - gath hlu - - - - de and

*p*

swin - - - - - si - ath

torx - - - - - te sin - - - - - gath

*pp* *p*

thon - ne ic ye - ten - ge ne béom flo - - - - - de

*pp*

4

4:6

and fòl - - - - - dan fé - ren - de

*p*

4:6

4

4

gast.

*diminuendo*

4:6

4:6

4:6

4:6

4:6

4:6



