

**You can't do that!**  
**A journey into vocal composition through an**  
**exploration of musical genres and the**  
**subversion of norms**  
**6. Then shuts the door**

Katrin Klose

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&  
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THEN SHUTS THE DOOR

**Text**

Beauty is but a flower  
 Which wrinkles will devour;  
 Brightness falls from the air;  
 Queens have died young and fair;  
 Dust hath closed Helen's eye.  
 I am sick, I must die.  
     Lord, have mercy on us!

*The soul selects her own society,  
 Then shuts the door.*

Adieu, farewell, earth's bliss;  
 This world uncertain is;  
 Fond are life's lustful joys;  
 Death proves them all but toys;  
 None from his darts can fly;  
 I am sick, I must die.  
     Lord, have mercy on us!

*She keeps her social distance of  
 Six feet or more.*

Wit with his wantonness  
 Tasteth death's bitterness;  
 Hell's executioner  
 Hath no ears for to hear  
 What vain art can reply.  
 I am sick, I must die.  
     Lord, have mercy on us!

*Unmoved, she notes the careless crowd  
 Outside her gate;  
 Unmoved, she notes the feckless folk  
 Still tempting fate.  
 I've known her from those foolish people  
 Choose none  
 Then turn her mind to friends she's meeting  
 By phone.*

Extracted from:

Thomas Nashe – A Litany in Time of Plague (1592)

Felicia Nimue Ackerman – *The soul selects her social distance* (2020)

- *The New York Times and The Emily Dickinson International Society Bulletin*

# Then shuts the door

Thomas Nashe / Felicia Nimue Ackerman

Katrin Klose (\*1990)

ruhig/calm ♩ = 60

Bassgambe

Skordatur klingend/ sounding

S. Sopran

28

A

Beau

35 *mf*

S. -ty is but a flower which wrink - les will de-vour

G. *mf* *p* 3 3 3 3 3

38 *f* *p*

S. Bright - ness falls from my air

G. *mf* 5 5 *p*

40 *mp*

S. Queens have died young and fair Dust hath

G. *mp* 5 5 5

42 *mf* *p* **B**

S. clo - sed He - len's eye , meditati / ethereal

G. *mf* *p* senza rit. pizz. 7

44 *pp* sehr ruhig, schwebend / very calm, floating

S. I am sick, I must die.

G. 7 7 7 7 7

49 *p* *pp*

S. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

G. 7 7 7

54 *gesprochen / spoken* *mp* *arco* *V* *mp*

G. *7* *3* *3*

The soul se-lects her own so-

57 *3* *f* *mp* *mf*

G. *3*

ci - e - ty. Then shuts the door.

60 **C** *7* *7* *7* *7*

G. *7*

61 *mp dolce* *3* *p*

S. *3*

mh fare - well earth's

G. *7* *7* *7* *7*

62 *3* *3*

S. *3*

bliss mh un - cer - tain is

G. *6* *6* *6* *6*

63 *mp* *3* *3*

S. *3*

mh life's lust - ful joys

G. *5* *5* *5* *5*

64 *f*

S. Death all but toys mh his darts

G. *f* 6 5 5 5

**D** sehr ruhig, schwebend / very calm, floating

66 *mp* *pp*

S. fly I am

G. *p* meditativ / ethereal pizz. 7 7 7

70 *p*

S. sick, I must die. Lord,

G. 7 7 7 7

74 *pp*

S. have mer - cy on us.

G. 7 7 7 7

79 gesprochen / spoken *mf*

G. arco IV She keeps her so cial dis-tance of six feet or more

*mf* *f* *p*

**E**

83 *mp* *mp*

S. mh mh

G. 3 3 3 3

85 *f*

S. Hell's e - xe - cu - tio - ner mh

G. *f*

87 *f* *mp dolce*

S. what vain

G. *mp*

88 *mp* **F**

S. art can re - ply meditatiu / ethereal

G. *pizz.*

91 *pp* *p* sehr ruhig, schwebend / very calm, floating

S. I am sick, I must die. Lord,

G. *p*

96 *pp*

S. have mer - cy on us.

G. *pp*

101 **G** eine Stimme soll aus der anderen hervorgehen / one voice should emerge from the other

S. *pp* *mf* care-less crowd out side her gate; *pp*

G. *arco* *mf* *pp* Un - moved, she notes the care - less crowd gate; *fp*



104

S. *pp* *f*

feck-less folk still temp - ting fate.

G. *f* *pp* *pp*

Un - moved, she notes the feck - less folk fate.

106

S. *mf* *mp*

I've known her from those foo - lish peo - ple Choose none

G. *mf* *mp* *pp*

I none

108

S. *mf* *mp*

Then turn her mind to By phone.  
friends she's meeting

G. *mf* *mp* *p*

aufstehen und langsam zu einem zweiten,  
weiter entfernten Stuhl gehen /  
stand up and walk slowly towards a second  
seat standing farther apart

sich setzen,  
Altgambe nehmen /  
sit down and take  
alto viola da gamba

**H**

115

G. *f* *p*

119

G. *mp* *mf* *p* *pp*

sehr ruhig, schwebend /  
very calm, floating

125

G. *p* *pp*