

# Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep

*Do not stand at my grave and weep,  
I am not there; I do not sleep.  
I am a thousand winds that blow,  
I am the diamond glints on snow.  
I am the sun on ripened grain,  
I am the gentle autumn rain.  
When you awaken in the morning's hush,  
I am the swift uplifting rush  
Of quiet birds in circling flight.  
I am the soft stars that shine at night.  
Do not stand at my grave and cry;  
I am not there. I did not die.*

- Mary Elizabeth Frye, 1932

## **Program Note**

Mary Elizabeth Frye's beautiful poem has provided solace and comfort for generations of people across the world. Translated into various languages, this poem has traveled a long way from its origins as a text written to comfort a grieving friend. No matter its storied history, it remains a timeless source of peace.

I was personally drawn to Frye's vivid imagery. The various depictions of nature inspired me to compose a ragamalika— a garland of *ragas*, the emotive scales of Indian classical music. This piece features Ragas Bhaskari,\* Charukesi, and Kalyani. Above all, the quiet elegance of her text conveys a message of hope that I aspired to capture musically.

- Shruthi Rajasekar

*\*Bhaskari is a relatively recent raga - to learn about its provenance, contact the composer.*

**Shruthi Rajasekar (b. 1996)**

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# Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep

Text by Mary Elizabeth Frye

Shruthi Rajasekar

$\text{♩} = 72$  *rubato*  
*mp*

Soprano  
Do not stand at my grave Do not stand at my grave

Alto  
*mp*  
Do not stand at my grave

Tenor

Bass

Piano  
(rehearsal only)  
*mp*  
*rubato*

**5** *cresc.* *a tempo*  
*mf*

S  
and weep and weep and weep I am not

A  
*cresc.* *mf*  
and weep and weep and weep I am not

T  
*mf*  
I am not

B

Pno  
*mf* *mf*

Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep

10

S  
there I do not sleep I am a thou - sand winds that

A  
there I do not sleep I am a thou - sand winds that

T  
there I do not sleep — I am a thou - sand winds that

B  
*mf*  
I am a thou - sand winds that

Pno

13

S  
blow I am not there, I do not sleep — I am the

A  
blow I am not there I do not sleep — I am the

T  
blow — I am not there I do not sleep I am the

B  
blow — I am not there I do not sleep — I am the

Pno

16

S *f*  
dia - mond glints on snow — I am the sun on ripe - n'd grain I am the

A *f*  
dia - mond glints on snow — I am the sun on ripe - n'd grain I am the

T *f*  
dia - mond glints on snow — I am the sun on ripe - n'd grain I am the

B *f*  
dia - mond glints on snow — I am the sun on ripe - n'd grain I am the

Pno *f*

20

S *dim.*  
sun on ripe - n'd grain I am not there I do not sleep I am the

A *dim.*  
sun on ripe - n'd grain I am not there I do not sleep I am the

T *dim.*  
sun on ripe - n'd grain I am not there I do not sleep I am the

B *dim.*  
sun on ripe - n'd grain I am not there I do not sleep I am the

Pno *dim.*

## Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep

24  $\text{♩} = 60$

S  
gen - tle au - tumn rain, au - tumn rain

A  
gen - tle au - tumn rain, au - tumn rain

T  
gen - tle au - tumn rain, au - tumn rain Mm. *p*

B  
gen - tle au - tumn rain, au - tumn rain Mm. *p*

Pno

28 *p* *cresc. poco a poco*

S  
When you a - wak - en a - wak - en a -

A  
*p* *cresc. poco a poco*  
when you a - wak - en a - wak - en a -

T  
*cresc. poco a poco*  
When you a - wak - en in the

B  
*cresc. poco a poco*  
When you a - wak - en in the

Pno  
*cresc. poco a poco*

Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep

31 *mf*

S - wak - en a - wak - en when you a - wak - en in the morn - ing

A - wak - en a wak - en when you a - wak - en morn - ing

T morn - ing hush a - wak - en in the morn - ing

B morn - ing hush a - wak - en in the morn - ing

hush a - wak - en

Pno

34

S hush I am the gen - tle au - tumn rush When you a -

A hush I am the gen - tle au - tumn rush When you a -

T I am the gen - tle au - - tumn rush When you a -

B I am the gen - tle au - - tumn rush When you a -

Pno

## Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep

37

S  
- wak - en in the morn - ing hush I am the gen - tle the gen - tle\_\_

A  
- wak - en morn - ing hush I am the gen - tle the gen - tle\_\_

T  
- wak - en morn - ing\_ hush I am the gen - tle the gen - tle\_\_

B  
- wak - en in the morn - ing hush I am the gen - tle the gen - tle\_\_

Pno

40

S  
rush I am the swift I am the swift I am the

A  
rush I am the swift I am the swift I am the

T  
rush I am I am the

B  
rush I am I am the

Pno

**brisk**

**brisk**

**steady**

**steady**

43 *accel.*

S  
swift up - lift - ing rush

A  
swift up - lift - ing rush qui - et birds in circ - ling

T  
swift up - lift - ing rush of qui - et birds in circ - ling

B  
swift up - lift - ing rush qui - et birds in circ - ling

Pno

45 *rit.*

S  
flight

A  
flight of qui - et birds in circ - ling flight

T  
flight of qui - et birds in circ - ling flight

B  
flight of qui - et birds in circ - ling flight

Pno



Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep

48

S *p* I am the soft star - shine at night star -

A *p* I am the soft star - shine at night star -

T

B

Pno *p*

52

S *mp* - shine at night Do not stand at my grave Do

A *mp* - shine at night Do not stand at my grave Do

T *mp* grave

B *mp* grave Do

Pno *mp*

72

56

S not stand at my grave and cry Do not stand at my

A not stand at my grave and cry Do not stand at my

T not stand at my grave and cry Do not stand

B not stand at my grave and cry Do not stand at my

Pno

59

rit. solo

S grave I am not there I did not die

A grave I am not there I did not die

T

B grave

Pno