

Alec Roth – LIGHTS OUT – words by Edward Thomas

for for tenor and guitar

first performed by Mark Padmore (tenor) and Morgan Szymanski (guitar), for the CD recording 'Sometime I Sing'

DURATION

ca. 4½ minutes

FORCES REQUIRED

Tenor and Guitar

PERFORMANCE MATERIALS

Score

SCORE SAMPLE

Click here for a [sample page of the Score](#)

RECORDING

Lights Out is recorded by Mark Padmore and Morgan Szymanski on the Signum label ([SIGCD332](#))

Individual tracks may be sampled and downloaded at [iTunes](#)

TEXT

Lights Out

I have come to the borders of sleep,
The unfathomable deep
Forest where all must lose
Their way, however straight,
Or winding, soon or late;
They cannot choose.

Many a road and track
That, since the dawn's first crack,
Up to the forest brink,
Deceived the travellers,
Suddenly now blurs,
And in they sink.

Here love ends,
Despair, ambition ends;
All pleasure and all trouble,
Although most sweet or bitter,
Here ends in sleep that is sweeter
Than tasks most noble.

There is not any book
Or face of dearest look
That I would not turn from now
To go into the unknown
I must enter, and leave, alone,
I know not how.

The tall forest towers;
Its cloudy foliage lowers
Ahead, shelf above shelf;
Its silence I hear and obey
That I may lose my way
And myself.

Edward Thomas (1878-1917)