Le Dormeur du Val

(The sleeper in the valley)

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For Orchestra

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Instrument List:

Piccolo

Flutes 1, 2

Oboes 1, 2

English Horn/Oboe 3

Clarinets 1, 2 in Bb

Bass Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Contrabassoon

Horns 1, 2 in F

Horns 3, 4 in F

Trumpet 1 in B

Trumpets 2, 3 in Bb

Trombones 1, 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Timpani

3 Percussionists

- (1 Bass Drum, Tam-tam, Glockenspiel)
- (2 Vibraphone, Cymbals, Woodblock)
- (3 Snare Drum, Cymbals)

Harp

Celesta/Piano

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass

Duration: approximately 3'20"

C'est un trou de verdure où chante une rivière,
Accrochant follement aux herbes des haillons
D'argent; où le soleil, de la montagne fière,
Luit: c'est un petit val qui mousse de rayons.
Un soldat jeune, bouche ouverte, tête nue,
Et la nuque baignant dans le frais cresson bleu,
Dort; il est étendu dans l'herbe, sous la nue,
Pâle dans son lit vert où la lumière pleut.
Les pieds dans les glaïeuls, il dort. Souriant comme
Sourirait un enfant malade, il fait un somme:
Nature, berce-le chaudement: il a froid.
Les parfums ne font pas frissonner sa narine;
Il dort dans le soleil, la main sur sa poitrine,
Tranquille. Il a deux trous rouges au côté droit.

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It's a green hollow where a river sings
Madly catching white tatters in the grass.
Where the sun on the proud mountain rings:
It's a little valley, foaming like light in a glass.
A conscript, open-mouthed, his bare head
And bare neck bathed in the cool blue cress,
Sleeps: stretched out, under the sky, on grass,
Pale where the light rains down on his green bed.
Feet in the yellow flags, he sleeps. Smiling
As a sick child might smile, he's dozing.
Nature, rock him warmly: he is cold.
The scents no longer make his nostrils twitch:
He sleeps in the sunlight, one hand on his chest,
Tranquil. In his right side, there are two red holes.

- Arthur Rimbaud









