

# AFTEN

(Stille, hjerte, sol går ned)

Tekst: Jeppe Aakjær 1912 (1866-1930)

Musik: Thomas Laub 1915. Arr.: H. Colding-Jørgensen 2009

S  
M

1. STIL-LE, HJERTE, SOL GÅR NED, SOL GÅR NED BAG HE-DEN,

A

S  
M

DYR GÅR HJEM FRA DA-GENS BÉD, STOR-KEN STÅR I RE-DEN

A

S1  
S2

STIL-LE, M - - -

STIL-LE, HJERTE, STIL-LE, HJER-TE, SOL - GÅR NED.

A1  
A2

1. Stille, hjerte, sol går ned,  
sol går ned bag heden,  
dyr går hjem fra dagens béd,  
storken står i reden.  
Stille, hjerte, sol går ned.

2. Tavshed over hedesti  
og langs veje krumme.  
En forsinket humlebi  
ene høres brumme.  
Stille, hjerte, sol går ned.

3. Viben slår et enligt slag  
over mosedammen,  
før den under frytlens tag  
folder vingen sammen.  
Stille, hjerte, sol går ned.

4. Fjerne ruder østerpå  
blusser op i gløden,  
hededamme bittesmå  
spejler aftenrøden.  
Stille, hjerte, sol går ned.

# Heart Be Still, The Sun Goes Down

Text: Jeppe Aakjær 1912: AFTEN (Heart, be still, the sun goes down)

Music: Thomas Laub 1915. Arr.: H. Colding-Jørgensen 2009

The musical score is arranged in three systems. Each system consists of a vocal line (Soprano/Alto) and a piano accompaniment line (Soprano/Middle/Alto). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 2/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines.

**System 1:**  
 Vocal: HEART, BE STILL, THE SUN GOES DOWN, SMILING OVER THE MEAD-OWS,  
 Piano: Accompaniment for the first system.

**System 2:**  
 Vocal: SHEEP AND COWS ARE HOME-WARD BOUND THROUGH THE DEEPEN-ING SHAD-OWS.  
 Piano: Accompaniment for the second system.

**System 3:**  
 Vocal: HEART, BE STILL, BE STILL, THE SUN GOES DOWN.  
 Piano: Accompaniment for the third system.

1. Heart; be still, the sun goes down,  
 Smiling over the meadows,  
 Sheep and cows are homeward bound  
 Through the deepening shadows,  
 Heart, be still, be still, the sun goes down.

2. Silence falls on lanes and lea,  
 Restless day is over;  
 One belated bumblebee  
 Drones among the clover,  
 Heart, be still, be still, the sun goes down.

3. Softly now the haze is stirred  
 From the lowlands lifting;  
 Over the treetops skims a bird,  
 Fleecy clouds are drifting,  
 Heart, be still, be still, the sun goes down.

Far to east the windows gleam  
 Red with flashes blinding;  
 Sunset coloured flows a stream  
 Through green pastures winding  
 Heart, be still, be still, sun goes down.

Poem by Jeppe Aakjaer (1866 - 1930), translation: S. D. Rodholm (1877 - 1951)

The title "AFTEN" may mean "Evening or "Night". However, the words of the poem vividly depict the extremely slow, lingering sunset of the Danish summer nightfall.