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Night Comes On
Leonard Cohen
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#----#
#This file is the author s own work and represents their interpretation of the #
#song. You may only use this file for private study, scholarship, or research. #
                       Night Comes On (Leonard Cohen)
[3/4 \text{ time}]
    Eb G# Eb / Eb G# Eb /
            Eb
                         G#
                                        Eb
    I went down to the place where I knew she lay waiting
               G#
    Under the marble and the snow
                                        Eb
    I said Mother I m frightened the thunder and the lightning
                       G#
                                   \mathbf{B}\mathbf{b}
    I ll never come through this alone
                       C#
    She said I ll be with you my shawl wrapped around you
                     C#
    My hand on your head when you go
                                                F#
                                                                       C#
                                  Bbm
    And the night came on it was very calm, I wanted the night to go on and on
                                           Eb G# Eb /
    But she said go back, go back to the world
             Eb
                        G#
                                          Eb
    We were fighting in Egypt when they signed this agreement
                 G#
    That nobody else had to die
                              G#
                   \mathbf{E}\mathbf{b}
    There was this terrible sound and my father went down
                      G#
    With a terrible wound in his side
                      C#
    He said try to go on take my books take my gun
                  C#
    Remember my son how they lied
    And the night comes on it s very calm
    I d like to pretend that my father was wrong
                                            Eb G# Eb /
    But you don t want to lie, not to the young
             Eb
                             G#
                                       Eb
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We were locked in this kitchen I took to religion
                       G#
    And I wondered how long she would stay
                G#
                                                                    G#
Bb
    I needed so much to have nothing to touch, I ve always been greedy that way
                       C#
                                        G#
    But my son and my daughter climbed out of the water
                     C#
    Crying Papa you promised to play
    And they lead me away to the great surprise
    It s Papa don t peek, Papa cover your eyes
             G#
                               Eb G# Eb /
    And they hide, they hide in the world
          Eb
                       G#
                                    Eb
    Now I look for her always I m lost in this calling
                      G#
    I m tied to the threads of some prayer
                         G#
    Saying when will she summon me when will she come to me
                G#
    What must I do to prepare
                   C#
                                          G#
                                                          C#
    When she bends to my longing like a willow like a fountain
                      C#
                                G#
    She stands in the luminous air
    And the night comes on it s very calm
    I lie in her arms, she says when I m gone
                  Eb G# Eb /
    I ll be yours, yours for a song
                                        Eb
             Eb
                          G#
    Now the crickets are singing, the vesper bells ringing
                       G#
                                     Bb
    The cat s curled asleep in his chair
                            G#
                                        \mathbf{E}\mathbf{b}
    I ll go down to Bill s Bar, I can make it that far
                         G#
    And I ll see if my friends are still there
                          C#
                                                      C#
    Yes and here s to the few who forgive what you do
    And the fewer who don t even care
    And the night comes on, it s very calm
    I want to cross over I want to go home
            G#
                                           Eb
                                               G#
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But she says go back, go back to the world