

# death speaks – words and music by david lang

### 1. you will return

you will return to dust you will turn return to dust

turn to the sun like me, turn to the sun turn to the light turn to the light

if there's an eye still open grieving sweet sleep close it for me

turn your heart, your poor heart it will only find rest when it has stopped beating

turn to peace turn to peace this is the only road that leads you home I am your pale companion I mirror your pain I was your shadow all those long nights, all those days long past

listen to me this message is for you where I am now, all sorrow is gone where I am now, all lovers are together where I am now in my arms only will you find rest gentle rest

#### 2. I hear you

I hear you I hear you call I pity you I am your friend I am not cruel give me your hand you will sleep so softly in my arms when love breaks free from sorrow a new star shines a new star shines

three roses, half red, half white they will never wither

the angels they shed their wings and fall

rest well rest well close your eyes you will rest with me until the river drains into the sea

I'll make a bed for you the softest pillow come, rest everyone will sing for you for you

I will protect you from the hunter, from the forest from the flowers, from your dreams from the wicked girl, from her shadow I will keep your eyes covered I will protect you

good night, good night

#### 3. mist is rising

mist is rising moon is full and rising sky above us it is so full

I greet you, sister soul rise up, like an eagle rise up, to where the light is rise up, to where the light is from I am your rest, I am your peace I am what you long for, and what makes the longing go away I am full of joy for you, and I am full of grief come in and close the door behind you I will drive your sadnesses away my eyes fill with your light fill them fill them

sweetest child come with me I will play with you I will show you the flowers and the shore my mother's golden robe my daughters and their evening dance they know a song to sing while you are sleeping I love you I love all of you I love your face I love your form please don't make me make you follow me

come and see

tears of love become strands of pearls when the angel comes

#### 4. pain changes

pain changes every shape

once you are truly lonely you will never be alone

feel my hand I feel you touch my cold hand I will take you

## from her to your new cold land

I have chosen you my only love those others they search for you but where they search they will never find you

after the leaves fall, spring returns after love is parted, it returns all you have to do is come with me and wait one day she will be lowered in the earth beside you my hand will guide her home to the place where love is and no pain

when that door opens you will be healed

dearest man, dearest woman dearest boy, dearest girl dearest mother, dearest father dearest son, dearest daughter you will never leave me

you listen you are silent you feel me leaning towards you

nothing escapes me not the warrior not the hunter

everything awaits the way it changes when life falls away that is the meaning of the swan and its song

the night can't last forever nor will this sleep beyond this sleep is light forever light until that light can shine until you see it shining sleep sweetly here in the cool, dark night

#### 5. I am walking

I am walking in the sunlight I see the moon, at my feet I see the sun, at my feet I walk in joy I am kissed by angels

your heart child of man your heart can't know what joy I feel

sister soul, come to rest

pure notes of love echo around you a lily, a rose they wait for you while you sleep

only you can hear me only you can see me only you can hear the music it never stops

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