

SONNET ON A WORLD WITHOUT MUSIC

If all the music in the world should end
Then nobody would ask you for a dance.
Each lover would remain a simple friend
Accordions would litter all of France.
Each football game would fade away nil-nil.
No-one would win or lose a futile war.
There'd be no 'Edelweiss', no Jack, no Jill,
And radio would just be Radio Four.
The maypole hangs untangled on the green
In lifeless pubs no pianists roll out barrels.
Unrung Christmas doorbells, unsung carols,
And no-one stands to say "God Save the Queen".
The silent world lies in its winding sheet
For no heart can decide when it should beat.

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