

# Ludwiglied

Gene Pritsker / L. V. Beethoven  
Poem by Erik T. Johnson  
2023

## LUDWIGLIED

Ludwig,  
your soul was molten lead;  
Saturn,  
your planetary master.

But it was your father--  
(so dreaded, derided)--a  
Drunken Kapellmeister, who'd  
Extract you from deep slumber  
When you were only six in number. And  
Your fingers pattered through the night,  
Played on battered keys the rites  
That Saturn gazed on in delight:  
Your nascent  
Destiny.

Ludwig,  
your soul was molten lead;  
Saturn,  
your planetary master.

Under his gloomy tutelage,  
You brought forth realms  
from the dregs; unlike this one  
Forged for the dead, but Immortal,  
Soaring spells instead--yet on your breath  
Wine mixed with lead--  
Into your blood and ears had bled,  
And one day Saturn bent his head  
To see if you'd heard what he said:  
"Deaf is your  
Destiny."

Ludwig,  
your soul was molten lead;  
Saturn,  
your planetary master.

But you were born an alchemist;  
Turned lead to gold by will and wish;  
Untethered songs the gods had missed--  
For Elise, and for us, and Austrian Empress--  
(And Seraphs, one day to serenade  
phonographic populace)--  
As Haydn faded into mist. And  
Saturn must have witnessed this:  
You led your  
Destiny.

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Score

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♩ = 80

Poem: Verse 1

Guitar

Piano

Electric Bass

Drum Set

*pp*

*p*

*p*

*p*

8

Gtr.

Pf.

E.B.

D. S.

*p*

*p*

*p*

**A** On Cue

Gtr. *p*

Pf. *pp* *p*

E.B. *pp*

D. S. *pp*

Gtr. *mp*

Pf. *mp* *p*

E.B. *pp* *mp* *p*

D. S. *pp* *mp* *p*

20

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24

Gtr.

Pf.

E.B.

D. S.

27

Gtr.

Pf.

E.B.

D. S.

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30

Gtr.

Pf.

E.B.

D. S.

33

Gtr.

Pf.

E.B.

D. S.

37

Gtr.

Pf.

E.B.

D. S.

*sub. p*

42

Gtr.

Pf.

E.B.

D. S.

*pp*

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Poem: Verse 3

C On Cue

49

Gtr. *p*

Pf. *pp*

E.B. *p*

D. S. *p*

*sva*

*Red.*

\*

54

Gtr. *mp*

Pf. *< p*

E.B.

D. S. *pp*

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58

Gtr.

Pf.

E.B.

D. S.

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

Detailed description of measures 58-60: The guitar part (Gtr.) begins with a D chord box. The piano part (Pf.) features a complex melodic line with several triplet markings. The electric bass (E.B.) part has a melodic line with some accidentals. The double bass (D.S.) part provides a rhythmic accompaniment with 'x' marks indicating fingerings or specific techniques.

61

Gtr.

Pf.

E.B.

D. S.

Detailed description of measures 61-64: The guitar part (Gtr.) continues with triplet markings. The piano part (Pf.) maintains its complex melodic line. The electric bass (E.B.) part has a melodic line. The double bass (D.S.) part provides a rhythmic accompaniment.



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64

Gtr.

Pf.

E.B.

D. S.

This system contains measures 64, 65, and 66. The guitar part (Gtr.) features a melodic line with a long slur over measures 64 and 65, and a triplet of eighth notes in measure 66. The piano part (Pf.) consists of a right-hand melody with eighth-note patterns and a left-hand accompaniment of chords. The electric bass (E.B.) and double bass (D.S.) parts provide a rhythmic foundation with eighth-note patterns.

67

Gtr.

Pf.

E.B.

D. S.

This system contains measures 67, 68, and 69. The guitar part (Gtr.) has a melodic line with a slur over measures 67 and 68, and a triplet of eighth notes in measure 69. The piano part (Pf.) continues with eighth-note patterns in the right hand and chords in the left hand. The electric bass (E.B.) and double bass (D.S.) parts maintain the rhythmic accompaniment.

**E**

Gtr.

Pf.

E.B.

D. S.

*rit.*

Poem: Verse 3

73

Gtr.

Pf.

E.B.

D. S.

*p*

cymbal color

*p*