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We Wear the Mask (medium voice and piano)

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We Wear the Mask

Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872-1906)

We wear the mask
that grins and lies,
it hides our cheeks and shades our eyes.

We wear the mask
that hides our hearts and bleed our lives.

This debt we pay to human guile;

With torn and bleeding hearts we smile,

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With myriad subtleties, We wear the mask.

Why should the world be otherwise, in counting all our tears and sighs? Nay, let them see us, while we wear the...
We wear the mask,

mask.

We smile, but, O great Christ,

We sing to thee from tortured souls arise.

We, but oh the clay is vile beneath our feet, and long is the mile.
— O Christ, but let the world dream otherwise.

we wear the mask!

...the mask!

circa 2'20"