

Benjamin Britten, Agnus dei

Tenor:

One ever hangs where shelled roads part.
In this war He too lost a limb,
But His disciples hide apart;
And now the Soldiers bear with Him.

Chorus:

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem.

Tenor:

Near Golgatha strolls many a priest,
And in their faces there is pride
That they were flesh-marked by the Beast
By whom the gentle Christ's denied.

Chorus:

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem.

Tenor:

The scribes on all the people shove
and bawl allegiance to the state,

Chorus:

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi...

Tenor:

But they who love the greater love
Lay down their life; they do not hate.

Chorus:

...Dona eis requiem.

Tenor:

Dona nobis pacem.