



## **Universitätsbibliothek Paderborn**

### **The Works Of Alexander Pope Esq.**

In Nine Volumes Complete. With His Last Corrections, Additions, And Improvements; As they were delivered to the Editor a little before his Death

Containing His Juvenile Poems - with his last corrections, additions, and improvements, as they were delivered to the editor a little before his death

**Pope, Alexander**

**London, 1751**

The Dying Christian to bis Soul, an Ode

[urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-54366](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-54366)

## The dying Christian to his SOUL.

O D E<sup>a</sup>.

I.

VITAL spark of heav'nly flame!  
 Quit, oh quit this mortal frame:  
 Trembling, hoping, ling'ring, flying,  
 Oh the pain, the bliss of dying!  
 Cease, fond Nature, cease thy strife, 5  
 And let me languish into life.

II.

Hark! they whisper; Angels say,  
 Sister Spirit, come away.  
 What is this absorbs me quite?  
 Steals my senses, shuts my sight,  
 Drowns my spirits, draws my breath?  
 Tell me, my Soul, can this be Death?

REMARKS.

<sup>a</sup> This ode was written in imitation of the famous sonnet of Hadrian to his departing soul; but as much superior in sense and sublimity to his original, as the *Christian* Religion is to the *Pagan*.

† 13

## III.

The world recedes ; it disappears !

Heav'n opens on my eyes ! my ears

With sounds seraphic ring :

Lend, lend your wings ! I mount ! I fly !

O Grave ! where is thy Victory ?

O Death ! where is thy Sting ?