

GRACE

Grace *noun*

1. elegance or beauty of form, manner, motion, or act.
2. a pleasing or attractive quality or endowment.
3. favour or goodwill...
9. Theology
 - a. the free, unmerited favour and love of God.
 - b. the state of being in receipt of such unmerited favour and divine love.
 - c. the influence or spirit of God operating in a person to regenerate or strengthen.
 - d. a virtue or excellence of divine origin: the Christian graces.
10. spiritual strength: the grace to perform a duty.

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COMMENTARY

Grace is an enigmatic term. It can refer to the divine, attractiveness or strength. It can be a state that often belies what's hidden. A sense of grace can also come from feelings of acceptance or resignation, when one surrenders. And through this surrender the soul is strengthened.

How does one express grace in music? Rising scales refer to ascent... the soul floating up to a view of the world that transcends the current chaos. Grace floats above the turmoil of existence and conflict.

In this interpretation, an exposed melodic line or sometimes a single fragile note gracefully hold in balance, the rest of the work.