

With the BBC Singers, Lynne Dawson performs *Libera me* ("Deliver me")—from Verdi's *Requiem*—at [Princess Diana's funeral](#). *Libera me* was one of the Princess' favorite songs.

What happened during the Princess' last hours? The BBC produced a documentary—"Diana: The Last Day"—retracing the events from a morning swim in Sardinia to a stopover in Paris (on her way back to London).

After the shocking news of Diana's death spread around the world, people reacted with an extraordinary outpouring of grief. Meanwhile, her two young sons—who were with their father and grandparents at the Queen's Balmoral residence in Scotland—had to cope, in public, with the loss of their beloved mother.

Diana's funeral was a world-wide broadcast. Lynne Dawson, a world-famous soprano—but also a very [down-to-earth human being](#) who gives concerts to benefit others—gave a stunning performance of *Libera me*. Ms. Dawson later became head of the School of Vocal Studies at the Royal Northern College of Music.

The following are the lyrics of *Libera me*, in Latin:

*Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna in die illa tremenda;
quando coeli movendi sunt et terra:
dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem.*

Tremens factus sum ego et timeo, dum discussio venerit atque ventura irae, quando coeli movendi sunt et terra.

Dies irae, dies illa calamitatis et miseriae; dies magna et amara valde.

Requiem aeternam, dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna in die illa tremenda.

*Libera me, Domine, quando coeli movendi sunt et terra;
dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem.*

*Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna in die illa tremenda.
Libera me.*

Here are the lyrics, translated into English:

*Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death on that awful day,
when the heavens and the earth shall be moved:
when you will come to judge the world by fire.*

I tremble, and I fear the judgment and the wrath to come, when the heavens and the earth shall be moved.

The day of wrath, that day of calamity and misery; a great and bitter day, indeed.

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them.

Deliver me, Lord, from eternal death on that awful day.

*Deliver me, O Lord, when the heavens and the earth shall be moved;
when you will come to judge the world by fire.*

*Deliver me, Lord, from eternal death on that awful day.
Deliver me.*

Ms. Dawson's recordings are available via numerous places online.

She was not the only one to give an emotional performance at Diana's funeral. In the lead-up to the 20th anniversary of his mother's death, Prince Harry has said that [Elton John's "Goodbye England's Rose"](#) caused him—Diana's younger son, who was then just 12 years old—to cry.

In 1992, when Diana was working with someone to help with her speech-giving abilities, she gave an informal interview. It reveals who she was as a person, including her struggles and triumphs.

Credits:

Excerpt from Princess Diana's 6 September 1997 funeral, at Westminster Abbey, online via YouTube. The funeral, which was broadcast live, was seen by people throughout the world.

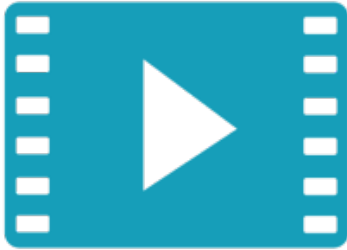
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Media Stream



Westminster Abbey - Princess Diana's Funeral

Clip online, courtesy the BBC.

View this asset at:

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Westminster Abbey - Good-bye England's Rose

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