When Earth’s Last Picture Is Painted – Kipling/Kingsgrave

C Dm

When Earth’s last picture is painted,

C F

and the tubes are twisted and dried

C Dm

When the oldest colours have faded,

C F G

and the youngest critics have died,

F C

We shall rest, and faith, we shall need it;

Dm G

lie down for an aeon or two

C Dm

Till the God of all good workmen

C G C

shall put us to work anew.

C Dm

And those that were good shall be happy;

C F G

they shall sit in a golden chair

C F

They shall splash at a ten-league canvas

G

with brushes of comet’s hair

Dm C

They shall find real Saints to draw from;

Dm Am G

Magdalene, Peter, and Paul

F C

They shall work for an age at a sitting,

C G C

and never be tired at all.

Dm C

And only the Master shall praise us,

Dm F G

and only the Master shall blame

Dm C

And no one shall work for the money,

Dm G

and no one shall work for the fame

F C

But each for the joy in the working,

F G

and each, in his separate star,

C Dm

Shall draw the thing as he sees it,

C F C

for the God of things as they are.