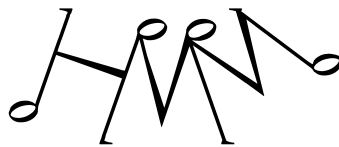


A True Hymn

~ for mezzo-soprano solo & SATB choir, a cappella ~

Music by Christopher J. Hoh

Text by George Herbert



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A True Hymn

My Joy, my Life, my Crown!
My heart was meaning all the day,
 Somewhat it fain would say,
And still it runneth muttering up and down
With only this, My Joy, my Life, my Crown!

 Yet slight not those few words;
If truly said, they may take part
 Among the best in art:
The fineness which a hymn or psalm affords
Is, when the soul unto the lines accord.

 He who craves all the mind,
And all the soul, and strength, and time,
 If the words only rhyme,
Justly complains that somewhat is behind
To make His verse, or write a hymn in kind.

 Whereas if the heart be moved,
Although the verse be somewhat scant,
 God doth supply the want;
As when the heart says, sighing to be approved,
"O, could I love!" and stops, God writeth, "Loved."

George Herbert (1593-1633)

A True Hymn

George Herbert

Christopher J. Hoh

Moderately *mf* **div.**

Sopr. My Joy, My Life, my Crown!

Alto *mf* **div.** (2nd Alto:) my
My Joy, My Life, my Crown!

Tenor *mf* **div.** My Joy, My Life, my

Bass *mf* **div.** My Joy, My Life, my

Rehs'l. **Moderately** ($\text{♩} = 56$) *mf* **Acc.**

4 **unis.** 3

My heart was mean - ing all the day, some -

Crown! **unis.** 3 3

My heart was mean - ing all the day, some -

Crown! **unis.** 3 3

Crown! My heart was mean - ing all the day, some -

4 3 3

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7

what it fain would say, and still it run - neth mut ter ing

what it fain would say, and still it run - neth mut ter ing

what it fain would say, and still it run - neth mut ter ing

what it fain would say, and still it run - neth

10

up and down with on - ly this, my Joy, my Life, my

up and down with on - ly this, my Joy, my Life, my

up and down with on - ly this, my Joy, my Life, my

up and down with on - ly this, my Joy, my Life, my

14 Mezzo soprano solo: *mf* Yet slight not those few words; _____

Crown! _____

Crown!

Crown!

Crown!

1st Sopr: *p* Yet slight not those few

2nd Sopr: *p* Yet slight not those few

1st Alto: _____

2nd Alto: _____

14 *p*

(♩ = 56)

17 if tru - ly said, — they may take part a - mong the best in

words; tru - ly said, they may take part a-mong the best in —

words; tru - ly said, they may take part a-mong the best in —

17

20

art: _____ the fine - ness which a hymn _____ or _____

art: _____

art: _____

p the fine - ness which a hymn or _____

p the fine - ness which a hymn or _____

20 the fine - ness which a hymn or _____

24 psalm _____ af - fords is, when the soul _____

_____ *mp* the _____

_____ *mp* the _____

cresc. _____ *mp* _____ the _____

psalm af - fords _____ *mp* is, when the soul _____

cresc. _____ *mp* _____

24 psalm af - fords is, when the soul _____

_____ *mp* _____

_____ *cresc.* _____ *mp* _____

28

un - to the lines ac -
 fine - ness when the soul un-to the lines ac - cord.
 fine - ness when the soul un-to the lines ac - cord.
 when the soul un - to the lines ac cord.
 when the soul un - to the lines ac -

28

32 *f*

cord. *Sopr: mf* He who craves all the mind, and all the
 unis. He who craves all the mind, and all the
Alto: mf unis. He who craves all the mind, and all the
Tenor: mf He who craves all the mind, and all the
Bass: mf He who craves all the mind, and all the
 32 cord.

36

soul, and strength, and time, if the

soul, and strength, and time, if the

soul, and strength, and time, if the

soul, and strength, and time, if the

soul, and strength, and time, if the

36

39

words on - ly rhyme,

words on - - - ly rhyme,

words on - - - ly rhyme,

words on - ly rhyme,

words on - ly rhyme,

39

42

just - ly com - plains that some - what is be -

just - ly com - plains that some - what is be - hind

just - ly com - plains that some - what is be - hind

just - ly com - plains that some - what is be - hind

just - ly com - plains that some - what is be - hind

42

45

hind to make His verse,

to make His verse, or

to make His verse, or

to make His verse, or

to make His verse, or

45

48 *decr.*

or write a hymn in kind.

write a hymn in kind.

write a hymn in kind.

write a hymn in kind.

write a hymn in kind.

write a hymn in kind.

52

Where-as if the heart be moved, al-though the verse be

Where-as if the heart be moved, al-though the verse be

Where-as if the heart be moved, al-though the verse be

Where-as if the heart be moved, al-though the verse be

Where-as if the heart be moved, al-though the verse be

(♩ = 56)

55

some-what scant, doth God sup-ply the want; as

some-what scant, doth God sup-ply the want; as

some-what scant, doth God sup-ply the want; as

some-what scant, doth God sup-ply the want; as

58

O, could I

when the heart says, sigh-ing to be ap proved, O, could I

when the heart says, sigh-ing to be ap-proved, O, could I

when the heart says, sigh-ing to be ap proved, O, could I

61

love!" — and stops, God writ-eth, "Loved." —

love!" and — stops, God writ-eth, "Loved."

love!" and stops, God — writ-eth, "Loved."

love!" and stops, God — writ-eth, "Loved."

love!" — and stops, God writ-eth, "Loved."

61