

I Heard a Bird Sing



**66 original rounds
and canons for choirs**

By Jake Alexander

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Introduction

Welcome to I Heard a Bird Sing!

I'm Jake Alexander – a composer and musical director – and this book brings together a collection of my rounds and canons, written especially for choirs to enjoy.

The songs are designed to be flexible. Feel free to experiment with tempo and dynamics, and shape each sing-through in whatever way best suits your group. They are set in keys that will work for most choirs, though you may wish to transpose them to match your singers more precisely. A few include optional piano accompaniments, but all work beautifully a cappella.

Most rounds divide into three or four parts, though you might like to begin with a single line and gradually build the layers. Endings are open to interpretation: you could let each section fade away in turn, or – as I often prefer – repeat the final phrase until every voice joins in unison.

Some pieces are simple enough to teach by ear and make excellent warm-ups; others may benefit from scores or lyric sheets. Whatever the method, I encourage singers to put the paper aside at some point, lift their heads, and listen. That's when real cohesion – and the joy of shared sound – emerges.

A quick tip: many of these songs are polyphonic, with rhythms that weave around each other rather than aligning exactly. If timing is a challenge, encourage singers to listen outward as well as inward. One useful strategy is to scatter them around the room, or even have them walk slowly as they sing – once they know the song well enough to do so.

The texts are drawn from poetry, prose, proverbs, and speeches – a mixture of favourite lines I've carried with me for years and gems I've only recently discovered. I hope you find as much pleasure in singing them as I did in setting them to music.

Finally, my thanks go to Amandine, Maiwenn, Eliot, Priya Bose, Eleanor Rastall, Jean & John Shirley, Jenn Mischenko, and My Johansson for their help in bringing this book to life; and to my choirs – Quaggy Community Choir, Crib Notes, Raised Voices, Greenwich Foundation Choir, Sing Streatham, and KT6 – for indulging me in so many musical experiments.

①

All Shall Be Well

4 parts
Easy

Words from *Revelations of Divine Love* by **Julian of Norwich** (c. 1343 - after 1416),
the first surviving English-language work written by a woman.

♩ = 90

1 2 3 4

The musical score for 'All Shall Be Well' is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 2/4 time signature. It consists of two staves. The first staff has four measures, each with a boxed number 1, 2, 3, and 4 above it. The lyrics are: 'All shall be well, and all shall be well, and'. The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics: 'all man - ner of thing sh'. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 90.

②

Blessing

3 parts
Challenging

Based on words by
William Gladstone (1809-1898) and **John Addington Symonds** (1842-1900)

♩ = 84

1 (to 2)

When the po - wer _____ love o - ver - comes the

2 (to 3)

love then the world will know_ Then the

(to 1)

know the bles - sings of peace When the

ad lib. id chord sequence

C(sus4) C(-sus4)/E F(sus2) F(add9)/A Bb(add9) Bb Bbmaj7 C11

Pno.

The musical score for 'Blessing' is written in treble and bass clefs with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of three staves. The first staff has two measures, each with a boxed number 1 and 2 above it. The lyrics are: 'When the po - wer _____ love o - ver - comes the'. The second staff has two measures, each with a boxed number 2 and 3 above it. The lyrics are: 'love then the world will know_ Then the'. The third staff has two measures, each with a boxed number (to 1) above it. The lyrics are: 'know the bles - sings of peace When the'. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 84. Below the staves, there is a chord sequence: C(sus4) C(-sus4)/E F(sus2) F(add9)/A Bb(add9) Bb Bbmaj7 C11. The piano part is indicated by 'Pno.'.

③

Blossom by Blossom

 4 parts
Intermediate

 Words from *Atalanta in Calydon* by **Algernon Charles Swinburne** (1837-1909)

Meditatively ♩ = 56

1 2 3

For win - ter's rains and ruins are o - ver, And all the

4

sea - son of snows and sins! The light the night that

wins; Bloss - som by bloss - ing be - gins.

④

Buried Paths

 3 parts
Easy

 from *Endymion* by **John Keats** (1795-1821)

1 3

Through bur - ied paths, where sleep - y twi - light

dreams the sum - mer - time a - way.

5

Changing Leaves

 3 parts
Intermediate

 Words from *To The Lighthouse* by **Virginia Woolf** (1882-1941)

♩ = 56

1 (to 2)

And all the lives we e - ver live And

2 (to 3)

all the lives to be, Are

3 (to 1)

full of trees... And

aves...

chang

6

s Bells

 3 parts
Challenging

Words

by **Ella Wheeler Wilcox** (1850-1919)

♩ = 100

1 (to 2)

Christ pelt - ing the air with sil - ver

2 (to 3)

chimes, And si - len - ces are melt - ing,

3 (to 1)

melt - ing to soft, me - lo - dious rhymes.

7

A Crystal Forest

4 parts
EasyWords from *A Crystal Forest* by **William Sharp** (1855-1905)

$\text{♩} = 66$

1 2 3

A - bove the ice - bound stream - let____ bends each

4

fro - zen fern with____ cru'

8

dows

3 parts
IntermediateWords from *Shadow* by **Charles Dickens** (1812-1870)

$\text{♩} = 92$

(to 2)

There are sha-dows u - pon the earth, But it's

(to 3)

s are strong - er, lights are strong - er in the

3 (to 1)

con - trast, in the con - trast. There are

9

The Dragonfly

3 parts
EasyBased on words from *Silent Noon* by **Dante Gabriel Rossetti** (1828-1882)

♩ = 42

1



Deep in the sun searched growths the

2



dra - gon - fly hangs like a thread,

3



dra - gon - fly hangs like a thread,

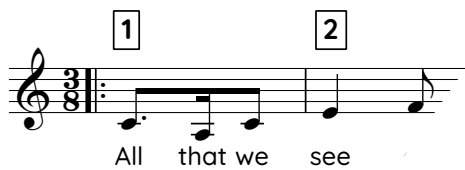
10

A Dream Within a Dream

4 parts
EasyWords from *A Dream Within a Dream*by **Edgar Allan Poe** (1809-1849)

♩ = 52

1



All that we see

2



All that we see

3



But a dream with - in a dream.

11

In Slow Dusk

4 parts
Easyfor *Doomed Youth* by **Wilfred Owen** (1893-1918)

♩ =

1



Their flowers

2



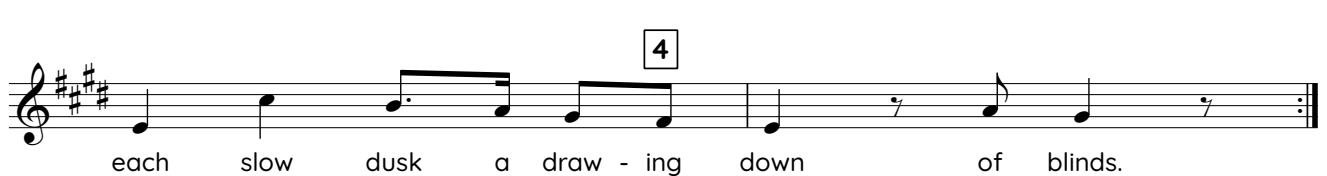
the ten - der-ness of pa - tient minds,

3



And

4



each slow dusk a draw - ing down of blinds.

12

Earth's Surface

 4 parts
 Challenging

 Words from *Progress and Poverty* by **Henry George** (1839-1897)

♩. = 60

1 (to 2)

There have e - xist - ed men who 'er

2 (to 3)

to hold or to give ex - c of the

3 (to 4)

earth's sur - far when and where did

4 (to 1)

there e - xis' ng who had the right?

Optional Piano

ad lib arc

Dm Am⁷ B $\flat$ C⁶

13

The Eternal Space

 3 parts
Challenging

 Words from *Darkness* by Lord Byron (1788-1824)

$\text{♩} = 68$

1 (to 2)

I had a dream, which was not all a dream. The bright

2 (to 3)

sun was ex-tin-guish'd, and ' - der

3 (to 1)

dark-ling in the e - ter - I had a

14

Friend

 3 parts
Intermediate

Words from Eccle

(Job 31:24), as translated in the 1560 Geneva Bible

$\text{♩} = 90$

A (to 2)

Friend is a strong de - fence, And

(to 3)

she that find - eth such a one,

3 (to 1)

find - eth a trea - sure. A

15

Fall, Leaves, Fall

3 parts
EasyBased on words from *Fall, Leaves, Fall* by **Emily Brontë** (c. 1818-1848)

This round actually works in 4 parts - you can do it this way if you prefer. However, I prefer having just 3 parts and a little more space.

♩ = 84

1 2 3

Fall, leaves, Flo-wers, a-way, Length - en night n day.

16

Fire and Thun

3 parts
IntermediateBased on words spoken by **Frederick**
1852 speech known as *What to the*an
y?

Forcefully ♩ = 90

1 2

It is not light but fire!

It is not the .o - wer but thun - der!

All parts pause on the last note to finish
- until everyone is holding it in unison.

17

m This Hour

4 parts
Intermediateof the *Open Road* by **Walt Whitman** (1819-1892)

1 2 3 4

From this hour I or-dain my - self loosed of li-mits and i-ma-gi-na-ry lines.

As an alternative, singers may sing the last phrase in the opposite direction, as shown here... Options include different groups singing different versions of the phrase, all groups moving to the downward phrase at a pre-arranged moment, or singers simply being allowed to sing either phrase at random - the lines are imaginary after all!

and i - ma - gi - na - ry lines.

18

The Goose and Common

 4 parts
 Challenging

Based on a 17th century English folk poem

♩ = 52

1 (to 2)

The law locks up the man or an,

2 (to 3)

Who steals_____ the goose from com - mon,

3 (to 4)

But leaves the great vil - lain_ loose,

4 (to 1)

Who steals_____ from_____ the goose.

Preview

19A

Hell Is Empty

Easy Version

4 parts
EasyWords from *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

♩ = 68

1 Hell, Hell, Hell is and the

3 de - vils, the de - vils, the here.

4

19B

Hell Is Empty

Spanish Version

3 parts
Challenging

♩ = 76

1 Hell is empty,

2 Hell is empty,

3 Hell is

emp - ty and the de - vils, the de - vils, the de - vils are here.

20

Hope is the Thing

3 parts
ChallengingWords from "*Hope is the thing with feathers*" by **Emily Dickinson** (1830-1886)

♩ = 66

1 (to 2)

Hope is the thing with feathers, That

2 (to 3)

perch - es in the soul, as with-

3 (to 1)

- out the words, at all.

ad lib around chord sequenc

Bm⁷ D⁶ G(add9)/D A(sus4)

Optional Piano

21

Be Fearless

3 parts
Intermediate*Frankenstein* by **Mary Shelley** (1797-1851)

♩ = 84

1 2 3

Be - ware, be - ware, be - ware, for I am

fear - less, and there - fore po - wer - ful. Be -

22

I Do Wander Everywhere

 4 parts
Challenging

 Words from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by **William Shakespeare** (1564-1616)

$\text{♩} = 122$

1 (to 2)
O-ver hill, o-ver dale, Tho-rough bush, tho-ro' brier, O - ver

2 (to 3)
park, o-ver pale, Tho-rough flood,

3 (to 4)
I do ev-'ry - where,

4 (to 1)
— ev-'r' O - ver

23

Bird Sing

 3 parts
Intermediate

 by **Oliver Herford** (1860-1935)

$\text{♩} = 55$

1 (to 2) Finish here last time around
I sing In the dark of De - cem - ber,

2 (to 3)
A ma - gi - cal thing, And sweet to re - mem - ber:

3 (to 1)
"We are near - er to spring than we were in Sep - tem - ber."

24

If a Thing Loves

 3 parts
Intermediate

"If a thing loves it is infinite."
A note made by **William Blake** (1757-1827)

Tip: Before singing this song in parts, get your choir to sing it in unison, whilst you stamp or clap on beats one and three, in order to get them used to how the melody fits around the meter.

$\text{♩} = 102$

1

If a thing _____ loves, _____ (to 2)

2

_____ loves, _____ it is _____ (to 3)

3

It is in _____ (to 1)

If a

25

Words from

Alfred Lord Tennyson (1849-1903)

 4 parts
Intermediate

$\text{♩} = 46$

1

It mat how strait the gate, How (to 2)

2

pun - ish - ments the scroll, (to 3)

3

I am the mas - ter of my fate, (to 4)

4

I am the cap - tain of my soul. It (to 1)

26

Jabberwocky

 4 parts
Easy

Words from the poem, *Jabberwocky*, by **Lewis Carroll** (1832-1898),
as featured in his 1871 novel, *Through the Looking Glass*

Menacingly ♩ = 86

1 (to 2)

Be - ware the Jab - ber - wock, r The

2 (to 3)

jaws that bite, the .! Be -

3 (to 4)

- ware o bird, and

4 (to 1)

shun tr Ban - der - snatch! Be -

Preview

27

Kindness Is Like Snow

 3 parts
Intermediate

"Kindness is like snow. It beautifies everything it covers"

 Commonly attributed to **Kahlil Gibran** (1883-1931)

♩ = 100

1

Kind - ness__ is, Kind - ness__

2

Beau - ti - f

3

E - very - thing, E - very - thing,___

ad lib around chord sequence

Fm¹¹/A^b E^b(add9)/' [♯]d11)/D

Optional Piano

1 cont. (to 2)

is It beau - ti - fies,___

2 cont. (to 3)

Be

(to 1)

E - very - thing it co - vers.___

Cm⁹ Fm¹¹ E^b maj7 E^b maj7/D Cm7 Cm7/B^b

Pno.

28

A Light Exists in Spring

4 parts
EasyWords from *A Light Exists in Spring* by **Emily Dickinson** (1830-1886)

♩ = 52

1 2 3 4

A light e - xists in Spring, Not pre - sent At
a - ny o - ther pe - ri - od, When here.

The image shows the first two lines of musical notation for the song 'A Light Exists in Spring'. The first line contains measures 1 through 3, and the second line contains measures 4 and 5. The lyrics are written below the notes. A large diagonal watermark 'Preview' is overlaid across the page.

29

Butterfly

4 parts
Easy„Easter“, by **Joyce Kilmer** (1886-1918)

♩ = 76

3 4

The all e a but - ter - fly, With frail blue wings. The

The image shows the first line of musical notation for the song 'Butterfly'. It contains measures 3 and 4. The lyrics are written below the notes. A large diagonal watermark 'Preview' is overlaid across the page.

All parts pause on the last note to finish until everyone is holding it in unison.

hap - py earth looks at the sky, And sings.

The image shows the second line of musical notation for the song 'Butterfly'. It contains measures 5 and 6. The lyrics are written below the notes.

30

Love and Work

 3 parts
Challenging

"Give me love and work - these two only."

 Commonly attributed to **William Morris** (1834-1896)

$\text{♩} = 82$

1 (to 2)

Give me love_____ and work_____ love_____

2 (to 3)

and work_____

3 (to 1)

on - ly thes Give me

stamp click fingers

Optional Body Percussion

ad lib around c'

Dm⁷/F Dm⁷/C Am⁷/C

Optional Piano

Preview

31

st of Trees

 3 parts
Challenging

i Trees by A. E. Housman (1859-1936)

$\text{♩} = 62$

1 (to 2)

Lo, trees, the cher-ry now, Is hung with

2 (to 3)

bloom a - long the bough, And stands a - bout the wood-land

3 (to 1)

ride, Wear - ing white for Eas - ter - tide.

32

Memory of the Heart

 4 parts
Intermediate

"Gratitude is the memory of the heart."

 French proverb attributed to **Jean Massieu** (1772-1846)

♩ = 102

1 2 3 4

Gra - ti - tude is the me - mo - ry, Is the m/ the heart, the heart, The me - mo - ry of

33

y Strands

 4 parts
Intermediate

poet and member of Quaggy Community Choir

♩ = 9

1 3 4

Ma - ny strands, Blend - ing our voic - es in - to song, We weave our strength_ through each o - ther.

34

Music Makers

4 parts
EasyWords from *Ode* by Arthur O'Shaughnessy (1844-1881)

♩ = 66

1 (to 2)
We are the mus - sic mak - ers, And

2 (to 3)
we are the dream - ers of dream

3 (to 4)
we are the mov - ers and Of the

4 (to 1)
world, for e - \ it seems.

35

Jsh

4 parts
Intermediate

♩ = 60

Words from

Anne Bowles (1786-1854)

1 (to 2)
Ri - ver Swell - ing ri - ver!

2 (to 3)
sh through rough and smooth;

3 (to 4)
Loud - er, fast - er, brawl - ing, leap - ing,

4 (to 1)
O - ver rocks, by rose - banks, sweep - ing...

36A

One Touch of Nature

 3 parts
 Challenging

Full Score

"One touch of nature makes the whole world kin."

 William Shakespeare (1564-1616), *Troilus and Cressida*

♩ = 62

1 One touch of na - ture, of +ure makes

2 One touch of na - ture

3 One touch of na -

Optional Piano

E(sus2) C#m(add9)

1 _ the v ukes_ the whole world, makes_ the

2 world, makes_ the whole world, makes

3 - ture ,akes_ the whole world, makes_ the whole world,

Pno.

G#m7/B C#m7

1.2. etc. Final time

1 whole world kin. One touch kin.

2 the whole world kin. kin.

3 makes the whole world kin.

G#m/D# Emaj7/B B(sus4)

Pno.

36B

♩ = 62

1

2/4

Preview

of Nature ple Score

3 parts
Challenging

of na - ture, of na - ture

makes the whole world, makes the whole world,

makes the whole world kin.

37

Only When It's Dark

 3 parts
 Challenging

"I know, somehow, that only when it's dark enough can you see the stars."

An excerpt from **Martin Luther King Jr.'s** final speech, popularly known as *I've Been to the Mountaintop*, which makes reference to earlier sentiments expressed by **Charles Beard** (1874-1948) and **Thomas Carlyle** (1795-1881).

$\text{♩} = 69$

1 On - ly, on - ly, on

(to 2)

2 dark e - nough

Finish here last time around

(to 3)

3 see the sta

(to 1)

the stars.

chest tar

thigh slaps

ad li

P

A

Gmaj7

Optional Body Percussion

Optional Piano

Preview

38A

The Oxen

Full Score

 3 parts
Challenging

Based on a fragment from *The Oxen* by **Thomas Hardy** (1840-1928).
The words refer to a Wessex legend, which holds that cattle kneel in
homage every Christmas Day at the exact time of Jesus' birth.

Preview

♩ = 66

1 Christ - mas Eve, the clock.

2 as Eve, and

3

Pno. Em Em/D Cmaj7 G/B Gmaj7/B C Cmaj7 Bm Gmaj7/B

1 "Now__ thr on their knees," An eld - er said as we

2 twelv "Now__ the ox-en are all on their knees," An

3 Chris and twelve of the clock. "Now__ the ox-en are

Pno. Am7/C Cmaj7 Bm Gmaj7/B Am7/C Cmaj7 Bm Gmaj7/B Cmaj7 Am7/C Bm/D Gmaj7/D

1 sat in a flock, By the em-bers in hearth-side ease.

2 eld - er said as we sat in a flock, By the em - s in hearth - side

3 all on their knees," An eld - er said as .K, By the

Pno. Cmaj7 Am7/C Bm Bm7 Em Em11 E ,13 Em/B G(add9)/B

1.2. etc. Final time

1 Christ - mas Eve, .K, Christ - mas Eve.

2 ease. mas Eve, and ease. Christ - mas Eve.

3 ease. em-bers in hearth-side ease.

Pno. Am9 Am7 G, G(add9)/B C Cmaj7 Bm Gmaj7/B Am9 G(add9)/B Em

38B

The Oxen

3 parts
Challenging

Simple Score

♩ = 66

1 2 3

Christ - mas Eve, and twelve of the clock. "Now_ the ox - en are
all on their knees," An eld - as we
sat in a flock, By the em-bers ease.

The musical score for 'The Oxen' is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of three systems of music. The first system has three measures, each marked with a box containing a number (1, 2, 3). The lyrics are 'Christ - mas Eve, and twelve of the clock. "Now_ the ox - en are'. The second system has three measures with lyrics 'all on their knees," An eld - as we'. The third system has three measures with lyrics 'sat in a flock, By the em-bers ease.' The score ends with a double bar line.

39

Refugee

4 parts
Easy

P

, in a foreign world by Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

1 2 3 4

These Strang-ers, in a fo-reign World, Pro - tec - tion asked of me, Be -
- friend them, lest Your - self in Heav'n, Be found a Re - fu - gee.

The musical score for 'Refugee' is written in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of four systems of music. The first system has four measures, each marked with a box containing a number (1, 2, 3, 4). The lyrics are 'These Strang-ers, in a fo-reign World, Pro - tec - tion asked of me, Be -'. The second system has four measures with lyrics '- friend them, lest Your - self in Heav'n, Be found a Re - fu - gee.' The score ends with a double bar line.

40

Remember, Remember

4 parts
Easy

Based on an English folk poem about the Gunpowder Plot of 1605

Lightly ♩. = 40

1 (to 2)

Re - mem - ber, re - mem - ber the Fifth of Nr - vem - ber,

2 (to 3)

Gun - pow - der, trea - son and I

3 (to 4)

know of no rea - son der, trea - son, Should

4 (to 1)

e - ve - got. Re -

41

Out the Old

4 parts
Easy*At, Wild Bells* by Alfred Tennyson (1809-1892)

♩. = 68

1

Ring out the o,

2

ring in the new, Ring, hap-py bells, a - cross the snow, The

3

year is leav - ing, let him go,

4

Ring out the false, ring in the true.

42A

Rippling of Rivers

3 parts
IntermediateWords from *A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers* by **Henry David Thoreau** (1817-1862)

♩ = 88

1 She who hears the rip-pl-ing, the rip-pl-ing of rivers in these de-

2 She who hears the rip-pl-inr of

3 ρ-pl ing, the

Optional Piano

B⁵ B/A D⁶

1 ge-ne-rate dr ut-ter - ly des-pair.

2 ri-ver ate days will not ut-ter - ly des -

3 ri-vers in these de-ge-ne-rate days will not ut-ter-

1.2. etc.

Pno.

Em¹¹ Bm⁷/F[#] Em¹¹ D⁶ A¹³/C[#]

Final time

1 She who hears the rip-pl-ing the - ly des-pair.

2 - pair. She who hears the ut-ter - ly des-pair.

3 - ly des-pair. w' des-pair.

Pno. B⁵ Bm/A B⁵

42B

ing of Rivers

Simple Score

3 parts
Intermediate

♩ =

1 2 3

She who hears the rip-pl-ing, the rip-pl-ing of ri-vers in these de -

ge-ne-rate days will not ut-ter - ly des-pair.

43

Rivers Flow Through Us

3 parts
Challenging

"The rivers flow not past, but through us. Thrilling, tingling, vibrating every fiber and cell of the substance of our bodies, making them glide and sing."

Words from *Mountain Thoughts* by **John Muir** (1838-1914).
John Muir Papers, Holt-Atherton Special Collections and Archives,
University of the Pacific Library. ©1984 Muir-Hanna Trust.

$\text{♩} = 60$

1

The ri - vers flow not past

2

Thrill - ing ting - ling, orat - ing

3

e - very fi cell. The

(to 2)

(to 3)

(to 1)

44

, and Thorns

4 parts
Challenging

Baser'

Josephine Karr (1808-1890) in *Lettres Ecrites de Mon Jardin*

$\text{♩} = 60$

1

We can com - plain be - cause rose bush - es have thorns,

2

3

or re - joice be - cause thorns have ros - es.

4

45

Snowflakes

 3 parts
 Challenging

 Words from *Snow-Flakes* by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882)

- Sing through in unison, then as a two part canon, and finally as a three part canon.
- On the final time through, Voices 1 and 2 hold and pause on "snow" while Voice 3 holds "slow". All voices come off the chord together, before singing "Desce" while Voice 3 descends the snow" in unison. (This means that Voices 1 and 2 sing "Desce" twice.)

♩ = 66

1 2

Out of the fa - bric of the air, the cloud - folds

— of her gar - ments shak-en, nds brown and bare,

O - ver the har - vest sak - en,

Si - lent and Des-cends the snow.

46

A Solitary Planet

4 parts
EasyWords from *Autumn Dusk* by Sara Teasdale (1884-1933)

♩ = 54

1 2 3

I saw a-bove a sea of hills, A so - li - ta - ry pla - net shine, And

4

there was no one, near or far, To keep the w ne.

47

Song of the

4 parts
IntermediateWords from *Macbeth* by William

♩ = 40

1 2 4

Dou-ble, dou-ble toil ar Jn and cal - dron bub-ble.

48

Worr

George Eliot (1819-1880)

4 parts
Intermediate

♩ = 50

(to 2)

I would - long the coast but steer

(to 3)

in mid - sea, by

3 (to 4)

guid - ance of the stars, by

4 (to 1)

guid - ance of the stars. I would not

49

Summer in England

3 parts
EasyWords from *The Light That Failed* by **Rudyard Kipling** (1865-1936)

♩ = 82

1 (to 2)

A thin, grey fog hung o - ver the ci - ty and the

2 (to 3)

streets were ve - ry cold; For

3 (to 1)

summer was in A

50

T' IS

4 parts
ChallengingWords from *An*

iam Sharp (1855-1905)

♩ = 60

1 (to 2)

Deep .ne dy - ing glow, The

2 (to 3)

tall stand, The rooks are

3 (to 4)

still, No wind - breath makes the faint - est

4 (to 1)

thrill A - mongst the leaves.

51

This Crisp Winter Air

3 parts
ChallengingWords from *Winter Sunshine* by **John Burroughs** (1837-1921)

$\text{♩} = 48$

1 (to 2)

It is the life of the cry - stal, the ar - chi - tect of the

2 (to 3)

flake, the fire of the frost, the so

3 (to 1)

This cris It is the

ad lib around chord ser

Dm⁷ Dm⁹ F(add⁹) Am⁷/E F Am⁷/C

Optional Piano

52

and Show

4 parts
Easy

"This grand show
a shower is fo
and gloamir

rise somewhere; the dew is never all dried at once;
rising. Eternal sunrise, eternal sunset, eternal dawn
and islands, each in its turn, as the round earth rolls."

Words from .

the Unpublished Journals of John Muir by **John Muir** (1838-1914).
Holt-Atherton Special Collections and Archives,
the Pacific Library. ©1984 Muir-Hanna Trust.

 $\text{♩} = 6'$

1 2

This grand show is e - ter - - - - - nal, The

3 4

dew is al - ways ris - ing, A shower is for - e - ver fall - ing.

53

Those Who Wish to Sing

3 parts
Intermediate

"Those who wish to sing always find a song."
Swedish proverb

♩ = 72

1 (to 2)

Those who wish, those v

2 (to 3)

those who wish to sing - ways,

3 (to 1)

al - ways, song.____

ad lib around chord sequence

Pno.

F#m7 C#m7/E C#m7/G#

54

Torch Bearers

4 parts
EasyWords from *Torch-Bearers* by E. Nesbit (1858-1924)

♩ = 84

1 (to 2)
Light thine own torch and

2 (to 3)
hold it to thy bro - And

3 (to 4)
his shall at the

4 (to 1)
flame

ad lib around chord ser
Gmaj7

Optional Piano

Preview

55

Truth Prevails

3 parts
Intermediate

"Truth is powerful and it prevails."
Sojourner Truth (c. 1797-1883)

♩ = .

1 3
Truth, truth, is po - wer - ful and

it pre - vails, and it pre - vails.

56

Until We Are All Free

4 parts
EasyBased on words attributed to **Emma Lazarus** (1797-1883)

For the sake of clarity, the 4 parts enter at intervals of one crotchet. This round is designed to be easily facilitated by the conductor, who, if necessary, can give cues for each part for every individual phrase.

$\text{♩} = 60$

1 2 3 4

Un - til _____ we are all of us We are

none of us free, We are none of us free of us free.

57

Upon Hill

4 parts
IntermediateWords from *The Aut*

Browning (1806-1861)

$\text{♩} = 100$

1 (to 2)

Go, _____ on the loft - y hill,

2 (to 3)

our eyes _____ a - round,

3 (to 4)

Where wav - ing woods and wa - ters wild,

4 (to 1)

Do hymn an au - tumn sound.

58

Villagers All

4 parts
IntermediateWords from *The Wind in the Willows* by **Kenneth Grahame** (1859-1932)

♩ = 78

1 (to 2)

Vil - la - gers all, this frost - y tide, Let your doors swir - o - pen wide, Though

2 (to 3)

wind may fol - low, and snow be - side, Yet draw us side;

3 (to 4)

Joy shall be yours in th' ning!

4 (to 1)

Joy shall be yours - ning!

59

Summer Sun

4 parts
Easy

Th by **Mark Twain** (1835-1910) on the tombstone
emens (1872-1896). They were closely adapted
y **Robert Richardson** (1850-1901) called *Annette*.

♩ = 78

1 2

Warm sum - mer sun, Shine kind - ly, Shine kind - ly here,

3 4

Warm sou - thern wind, Blow soft - ly, soft - ly here.

60

Wassail the Trees

 4 parts
Intermediate

 Words from *Wassail the Trees* by **Robert Herrick** (1591-1674)

$\text{♩} = 60$ 1

Was - sail the trees, that they you (to 2)

2

ma - ny a plum, and ,r, For (to 3)

3

more or less fruits will bring, As (to 4)

4

you was - sail - ing. Was - (to 1)

61

What Is Spring?

3 parts
ChallengingWords from *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett (1849-1924)

♩ = 58

1 (to 2)

What is spring, what is _____ spring? It is the sun_

2 (to 3)

shin - ing, shin - ing on the rc ie rain_

3 (to 1)

_____ fall - ing, fo' shine.

ad lib around chord sequence

B(add11) E maj7

Optional Piano

ff pp *pp ff pp*

Preview

62

What the World Be?

3 parts
Challenging

Gerald Manley Hopkins (1844-1889)

♩ = 50

1 (to 2)

Who' be, once be - reft, Of wet and of

2 (to 3)

wild - ness? Let them be left, Oh, let them be left, wild-ness and

3 (to 1)

wet, Long live the weeds and the wil-der-ness yet.

Preview

63

When Adam Delved

3 parts
Easy*"When Adam delved and Eve span, who was then the gentleman?"*

John Ball (c. 1338-1381)

$\text{♩} = 55$

1 (to 2)

When A - dam delved and Eve _____ an,

2 (to 3)

who _____ was then _____ the

3 (to 1)

Who was then tle - man? When

64

Is the Music

4 parts
Easy*.ursion by William Wordsworth (1770-1850)*

$\text{♩} = 60$

1 2

Wild is the mu - sic of the au - tum - nal winds, A -

3 4

mong _____ the fad - ed woods.

65

Winter Song

 4 parts
Challenging

 Words from *Winter Song* by **Wilfred Owen** (1893-1918)

$\text{♩} = 41$ 1

The browns, the o-lives and the gel - lows And were

2 (to 2)

swept up to hea - ven, red each

3 (to 3)

dawn of sun

4 (to 4)

tide. The

ar nce

Gm⁷/B^b E^b F Gm⁷/F

Optional Piano

Preview

66

The Woods

4 parts
Challenging

Words from *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening* by **Robert Frost** (1873-1963)

$\text{♩} = 62$

1 The woods are lo - vely, (to 2)

2 deep, But - ses (to 3)

3 — to keep, go (to 4)

4 be sleep. The (to 1)

Preview