

Four Blake Songs

2. THE LITTLE BLACK BOY

Mixed choir

Text: William Blake (1757-1827)

Huub de Lange (*1955)

The musical score consists of two systems of music for a mixed choir. The first system, starting at measure 1, features four voices: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The key signature is A minor (no sharps or flats), and the time signature is common time (indicated by '4'). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 80. The vocal parts are arranged in a four-line staff, with each line representing a different voice. The lyrics are: "My mo - ther bore me in the sou - thern wild, And I am bore me in the sou - thern wild, And I am My mo - ther bore me in the sou - thern wild, And I am". The second system, starting at measure 3, continues with the same four voices and key signature. The lyrics are: "black, but oh! my soul is white. White as an black, but oh! my soul is white. White as an black, but oh! my soul is white. White as an". The bass line in the first system ends with a fermata and the instruction "(mm...)".

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6

an - gel is the Eng - lish child, But I am black as if be - reaved of
an - gel is the Eng - lish child, But I am black as if be - reaved of
an - gel is the Eng - lish child, But I am black as if be - reaved of

9

light. (mm... _____) be - reaved of light.
light. (mm... _____) be - reaved of light. My mo - ther
light. (mm...) be - reaved of light. My mo - ther

12

taught me un - der - neath a tree, And, sit - ting down be - fore the heat of
taught me un - der - neath a tree, And, sit - ting down be - fore the heat of
taught me un - der - neath a tree, And, sit - ting down be - fore the heat of

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3

15

day, She took me on her lap and kissed

day, She took me on her lap and kissed

day, She took me on her lap and kissed

18

me, And pointing to the east began to say:

8 me, And pointing to the east began to say:

me, And pointing to the east began to say:

21

"Look on the

(mm...) be - gan to say: "Look on the

8 (mm...) be - gan to say:

(mm...) be - gan to say:

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24

ri-sing sun, _____ there God does live _____ And

ri-sing sun, _____

8 "Look on the ri-sing sun,"

"Look on the ri-sing sun,"

28

gives his light, and gives his heat a-way; And flo-wers and

light, heat a-way, And flo-wers and

8 And flo-wers and

32

trees and beasts and men re-ceive

trees and beasts and men re-ceive

8 trees and beasts and men re-ceive

36

Com - fort in mor - ning, joy in the noon - day. And

Com - fort in mor - ning, joy in the noon - day.

8 Com - fort in mor - ning,

Com - fort in mor - ning,

40 we are put on earth a litt - le space That we may learn to bear the beams of

(mm...) .

8 (mm...) .

(mm...) .

43 love; And these black bo - dies and this sun - burnt face is but a

(mm...) .

8 (mm...) .

(mm...) .

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46

cloud, _____ For
and like a sha - dy grove.
like a sha - dy grove.

49

when our souls have learned the heat to bear the cloud will va - nish, we shall hear his
(mm...)

when our souls have learned the heat to bear the cloud will va - nish, we shall hear his
(mm...)

52

voice Say - ing: 'Come out from the grove, my love and care, And round my
(mm...)

voice 'Come out from the grove, my love and care, And round my
(mm...)

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7

55

gol - den tent like lambs
re - - joice!"
gol - den tent like lambs
re - - joice!"
gol - den tent like lambs
re - - joice!"
lambs
re - - joice!"

58

Thus did my mo-ther say, and kissed me; And thus I
(mm...) kissed me;
Thus did my mo-ther say, and kissed me; And thus I
(mm...)

61

say to litt - le Eng - lish boy: When I from
(mm...) When I from
say to litt - le Eng - lish boy: When I from
(mm...)

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64

black and he from white cloud free, And round the tent of God like lambs we
black and he from white cloud free, And round the tent of God like lambs we
black and he from white cloud free, And round the tent of God like lambs we

67

joy, (mm...) like lambs we joy,
joy, (mm...) like lambs we joy,
joy, (mm...) like lambs we joy, I'll shade him

70

from the heat till he can bear to lean in joy up - on our Fa - ther's
(mm...)

73

And then I'll stand and stroke his sil - ver hair,

(mm...)

knee;

(mm...)

(mm...)

76

And be like him, and he will then loves

him,

him,

him,

80

me. (mm...)

(mm...)

(mm...)

(mm...)

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Musical score for "The Little Black Boy" by Huub de Lange, page 10, measure 84. The score consists of four staves:

- Staff 1 (Treble Clef):** Contains a single measure starting with a dotted half note. A fermata is placed over the first note. The tempo marking *rit.* is above the second measure. The dynamic **#** is placed under the first note of the second measure. The instruction "(mm...)" is written below the staff.
- Staff 2 (Treble Clef):** Contains a single measure starting with a dotted half note. The dynamic **#** is placed under the first note. The instruction "(mm...)" is written below the staff.
- Staff 3 (Treble Clef):** Contains a single measure starting with a dotted half note. The instruction "(mm...)" is written below the staff.
- Staff 4 (Bass Clef):** Contains a single measure starting with a dotted half note. The instruction "(mm...)" is written below the staff.

The key signature is three sharps, and the time signature is common time (indicated by a '4'). Measure numbers 84 and 8 are indicated above the staves.