

Oh, Say What Is Truth?

Anthem for Men's (T.T.B.B.) Chorus and Piano

arr. by BETSY LEE BAILEY

Text: John Jaques, 1827-1900

Music: Ellen Knowles Melling, 1820-1905

Firmly Moderato ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 96$)

Tenor I and II unison

mf 1.Oh

Bass I and II unison

f

say what is truth? 'Tis the fair - est gem That the rich - es of worlds can pro-

mf

PERFORMANCE TIME : *approx. 3:00 min.*

COPYRIGHT 2004 Betsy Lee Bailey
Making copies for non-commercial use is permitted.

8

duce, And price - less the val - ue of truth will be when The proud

8

mon - narch's cost - li - est di - a - dem is count - ted but dross and re-

II

II

14

mf

fuse. 2. Then say, what is truth? 'Tis the bright - test prize To which

14

Oh, Say What Is Truth?

3

17
8 mor - tals and Gods can as - pire. Go search in the depth where is
17
20
8 glit - ter - ing lies. Or as - cend__ in pur - suit__ to the loft - i - est skies Is an
20
23
8 aim for the no - blest de - sire.

The musical score consists of two staves. The top staff is for the voice, starting at measure 17. The bottom staff is for the piano, starting at measure 17. The vocal part includes lyrics in measures 17 through 23. The piano part features harmonic support, with a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) in measure 17 and a dynamic marking of *f* (forte) in measure 23. Measure numbers 17, 20, and 23 are indicated above the staves. Measure 8 contains lyrics for both the vocal and piano parts.

27

mf

3. The scep - tre may fall from the des - pots grasp When with

f

27

31

winds of stern just - ices he copes. But the pil - lar of truth will en -

mf

31

34

dure to the last. And its firm root-ed bull - works out - stand the rude blast And the

34

The musical score consists of six systems of music. System 1 (measures 27-28) shows a vocal line with eighth-note patterns and a piano accompaniment. System 2 (measures 29-30) features a sustained piano chord. System 3 (measures 31-32) shows a vocal line with eighth-note patterns and a piano accompaniment. System 4 (measures 33-34) shows a vocal line with eighth-note patterns and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are integrated into the vocal line, appearing below the vocal staff. Measure 27: "The scep - tre may fall from the des - pots grasp When with". Measure 28: "3. The scep - tre may fall from the des - pots grasp When with". Measure 29: "winds of stern just - ices he copes. But the pil - lar of truth will en -". Measure 30: "winds of stern just - ices he copes. But the pil - lar of truth will en -". Measure 31: "dure to the last. And its firm root-ed bull - works out - stand the rude blast And the". Measure 32: "dure to the last. And its firm root-ed bull - works out - stand the rude blast And the". Measure 33: "dure to the last. And its firm root-ed bull - works out - stand the rude blast And the". Measure 34: "dure to the last. And its firm root-ed bull - works out - stand the rude blast And the". The piano part includes bass and treble staves with various chords and rhythmic patterns.

37

wreck of the fell ty - rants blow.

4. Then

37

ff

say, what is truth? 'Tis the last and the first To the lim - its of time it steps

40

f

o'er. For the hea - vens de-part and the earth's foun - tains burst. Truth the

43

46

sum_ of ex - stance will wea - ther the worst, E - ter - nal, un-changed ev - er-

allarg.

46

allarg.

49

more. Oh, say what is truth? Say, what is truth? E -

rit.

Oh, say, what is truth? E -

rit.

52

ter - nal, un - changed ev - er - more!

ter - nal, un - changed ev - er - more!

52

V