



PETER JAMES LEARN

ALL OF THE DAY SHOULD
NOT BE DAYTIME

For SATB Choir

Text by Henry David Thoreau

- All sections require divisi into two parts.
- The central section of this work is meant to be very free and improvisatory. As indicated, certain lines may be given to soloists, (or small groups within each section, if a large choir is used), and the exact rhythm of those passages may be interpreted expressively.

FROM "A WEEK ON THE CONCORD
AND MERRIMACK RIVERS"

The poet sings how blood flows in his veins.
He would strive in vain to modulate
The remote and transient music,
Since his song is a vital function, like breathing,
And an integral result like weight.
It is enough if Homer but says the sun sets.
It is as if nature spoke.
His passages are so naturally bright,
As gleams of sunshine in misty weather
"As from the clouds gleams the full moon,
All shining, and then again it goes behind the shadowy clouds,
So Hector, at one time appeared among the foremost,
And at another in the rear, commanding; and all with brass,
He shone, like to the lightning of aegis-bearing Zeus."
Instead of other sacrifice,
We might offer up our perfect thoughts to the Gods daily,
In hymns or psalms,
For we should be at the helm at least once a day.
The whole of the day should not be daytime;
There should be one hour, if no more,
That the day did not bring forth.

- HENRY DAVID THOREAU

ALL OF THE DAY SHOULD NOT BE DAYTIME

Text: HENRY DAVID THOREAU

PETER JAMES LEARN (b. 1982)
(BMI)

Sweet and warm ♩ = 66-72

Soprano *p* *mp* *p* *mf* *mp*
The po - et, the po - et sings, the

Alto *p* *mp* *p* *mf* *mp*
The po - et, the po - et the

Tenor *p* *mp* *p* *mf* *mp*
The po - et, the po - et the

Bass *p* *mp* *p* *mf* *mp*
The po - et, the po - et the

Piano (for rehearsal only)

S *f* *mp* *poco*
5 he po - et sings how the blood flows the blood

A *f* *mp* *poco*
po - et sings how the blood flows blood

T *f* *mp* *poco*
8 po - et sings how the blood flows

B *f* *mp* *poco*
po - et sings how the blood flows

5

poco rit. *mf* *a tempo* would strive would strive, would

S flows in his veins, he, strive in vain, in vain,

A flows in his veins, he, strive in vain, in vain,

T flows in his veins, he, strive, in vain, in vain,

B flows in his veins, he, strive, in vain, in vain,

f *poco* *p* *pp*

S in vain, strive in vain, to, to, to,

A in vain, strive in vain, to, to, to,

T in vain, strive in vain, to, to, to,

B in vain, strive in vain, to, to, to,

25

S *mf* *mp* *f* tran - sient *p*
to mod - u - late the re - mote and tran - si - ent mu - sic, —

A *mf* *mp* *f* *p*
to mod - u - late the re - mote and tran - si - ent mu - sic, —

T *mf* *mp* *f* *p*
— mod - u - late — the re - mote and tran - si - ent mu - sic, —

B *mf* *mp* *f* *p*
— mod - u - late the re - mote and tran - sient mu - sic, —

30

S *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*,
since his — song, — his song is — a vi - tal func - tion

A *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*,
since his — song, — his song is — a vi - tal func - tion

T *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*,
since his — song, — his song is — a vi - tal func - tion

B *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*,
since his — song, — his song is — a vi - tal func - tion

35

S *p* like breath - ing, an in - te - gral *f* re - sult, re - sult

A *p* like breath - ing, an in - te - gral *f* re - sult, re - sult

T *p* like breath - ing, an in - te - gral *f* re - sult, re - sult

B *p* like breath - ing, an in - te - gral *f* re - sult, re - sult

39

S *mf* like weight, like weight, like weight,

A *mf* like weight, like weight, like weight,

T *mf* like weight, like weight, like weight,

B *mf* like weight, like weight, like weight,

Solemn

43 *f* *mf*

S it is e - nough _____ if Ho - mer but says

A it is e - nough _____ if Ho - mer but says

T it is e - nough _____ if Ho - mer but says

B it is e - nough _____ if Ho - mer but says

Fervent

48 *p* *mf* *f*

S the sun sets, _____ it is _____ as if _____ Na - ture _____ spoke: _____

A the sun sets, _____ it is _____ as if _____ Na - ture _____ spoke: _____

T the sun sets, _____ it is _____ as if _____ Na - ture _____ spoke: _____

B the sun sets, _____ it is _____ as if _____ Na - ture _____ spoke: _____

Slower. Antiquated style. Senza misura ♩ = c. 56-66

S, A, T in this passage may be performed by small groups or soloists if desired, except for full tutti on the phrases "So Hector," "All With Brass," and m.59. All basses sing the low drone part.

54

S

A *mf* chanting
all shin -

T *f* chanting
As from the clouds gleams the full moon, *mf*
all shin -

B *fp* *droning
Hmm

(restrike low B's as necessary to support basses)

55

S

A *f* **
(ny) - ing, *mf* — *f* — *mp*
the shad - ow - y _ clouds,

T *f* **
(ny) - ing, and then a-gain it goes be-hind *mf* — *f* — *mp*
the shad - ow - y _ clouds,

B (Hmm)

*Any basses who have a low B \flat may sing it, staggering entrances. The upper B \flat may be occasionally flipped up or down a step as desired by any individual, but aim for a sparse and random fluctuation as a section, focusing mainly on the held pitch.

** Sight, nasal mordent, less than a semi-tone, in the manner of Persian vocal style.

56

brassy ff

S So Hec-tor, —

brassy ff *chanting mf*

A So Hec-tor, — at one — time and

brassy ff *chanting mf*

T So Hec-tor, — at one — time ap - peared a-mong the fore-most, and

B (Hum)

57

f = ff

S with brass!

f = ff

A at an-oth-er in the rear, all with brass!

f = ff

T at an-oth-er in the rear, com-mand - ing, — com-mand - ing, — and all — with brass!

B (Hum)

* Very fast and darkly-toned shake.

58 *sotto voce mp*
 S shone...
sotto voce mp ord. mf
 A shone... he shone like to the light ning
mf
 T he shone, he shone like to the light ning of ae - - -
 B (Hm)

59 *ord. f*
 S bear - ing Zeus!
mf
 A of ae - gis bear - ing Zeus!
mf
 T gis, of ae - gis bear - ing Zeus!
 B (Hm)

Semplice T^o I ♩ = 66-72

60

mp *mf*

S In - stead of oth - er sac - ri - fice, we might of - fer up our per -

mp *mf*

A In - stead of oth - er sac - ri - fice, we might of - fer up our per -

mp *mf*

T In - stead of oth - er sac - ri - fice, we might of - fer up our per -

mp *mf*

B In - stead of oth - er sac - ri - fice, we might of - fer up our per -

65

mp

S fect thoughts to the Gods dai - ly, in hymns,

mp

A fect thoughts to the Gods dai - ly, in hymns,

mp

T fect thoughts to the Gods dai - ly, in hymns,

mp

B fect thoughts to the Gods dai - ly, in hymns, _____

69

S
psalms, hymns, _____ psalms, _____ hymns, psalms, hymns, _____

A
psalms, hymns, _____ psalms, _____ hymns, psalms, hymns, _____

T
8 psalms, hymns, _____ psalms, _____ hymns, psalms, hymns, _____

B
hymns, _____ or psalms, or hymns, or psalms, or hymns,

73

S
_____ hymns, _____ psalms, _____ *mf* for we _____ should be at

A
_____ hymns, _____ psalms, _____ *mf* for we _____ should be at

T
8 _____ hymns, _____ psalms, _____ *mf* for we _____ should be at

B
or psalms or hymns, _____ *mf* for we _____ should be at

78 *f* **Solemn**

S the helm at least _____ once a day.

A the helm at least _____ once a day. The whole of the

T the helm at least _____ once a day. The whole of the

B the helm at least _____ once a day. The whole of the

83 *f* (unis.) day, day - time. _____ should not, _____ should not,

A *f* day, day - time. _____ should not, should _____ not, *mf*

T *f* day, day - time. _____ should not, should _____ not, *mf*

B *f* day day - time. _____ should not, _____ should not, *mf*

89

S *p* ————— *mp* *p* ————— *mf*

should not be day-time, there should be, _____ should be one, _____

A *p* ————— *mp* *p* ————— *mf*

should not be day-time, there should be, _____ should be one, _____

T *p* ————— *mp* *p* ————— *mf*

not be _____ time, there should be, _____ should be one, _____

B *p* ————— *mp* *p* ————— *mf*

not be _____ time, there should be, _____ should be one, _____

94

S *mp* ————— *f* *mf*

_____ there should be one, _____ one hour, if

A *mp* ————— *f* *mf*

_____ there should be one, _____ one hour if

T *mp* ————— *f* *mf*

_____ there should be one, _____ one hour if

B *mp* ————— *f*

_____ there should be one, _____ one hour,

99

S no if no, _____ no more, _____ that

A no, if no, no more, _____ that

T no, if no, no more, _____ that

B *mf* if no, _____ if no, _____ no more, _____ that

104

S *mp* the day did *p* not bring forth.

A *mp* the day did *p* not bring forth.

T *mp* the day did *p* not bring forth.

B *mp* the day did *p* not bring forth.