

PETER JAMES LEARN

RUMORS FROM AN  
AEOLIAN HARP

For SATB Choir  
With Soprano, Mezzo, Alto Soloists  
and String Orchestra

text by  
HENRY DAVID THOREAU

## RUMORS FROM AN AEOLIAN HARP

There is a vale which none hath seen,  
Where foot of man has never been,  
Such as here lives with toil and strife,  
An anxious and a sinful life.

There every virtue has its birth,  
Ere it descends upon the earth,  
And thither every deed returns,  
Which in the generous bosom burns.

There love is warm, and youth is young,  
And poetry is yet unsung.  
For Virtue still adventures there,  
And freely breathes her native air.

And ever, if you hearken well,  
You still may hear its vesper bell,  
And tread of high-souled men go by,  
Their thoughts conversing with the sky.

- Henry David Thoreau, 1849

- High soprano soloist, mezzo-soprano soloist, and alto soloist are called for.

- String sections should all be large enough that divisi into two parts for the basses and three parts for the others is practical. Two violin soloists are to be designated and diminished sections are required to play in one passage.

# RUMORS FROM AN AEOLIAN HARP

For SATB Choir and String Orchestra

Text: HENRY DAVID THOREAU

PETER JAMES LEARN (b. 1982)

BMI

*Adagio misterioso* ♩ = 50

Musical score for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts. All four voices are shown with rests throughout the first measure.

*Adagio misterioso* ♩ = 50

Musical score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Contrabass parts. The strings play eighth-note patterns. The Cello and Contrabass parts have dynamic markings: *mp*, *p*, *mp*, *p*, *mp*, *p*, *mp*, *p*, *mf*, *[primary line]*, *mp*, *mf*. The Contrabass part has a dynamic marking *mp < mf*.

Musical score for SATB choir parts. The vocal parts sing the lyrics "There is \_\_\_\_\_ a vale \_\_\_\_\_ which none \_\_\_\_\_ hath". The vocal parts have dynamics: *mp*, *pp*, *mp*, *pp*, *mp*, *mf*, *p*, *mp*, *pp*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*, *p*.

Musical score for Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vcl., and Cb. parts. The strings play sustained notes with dynamics: *p*, *p*, *p*, *p*, *p*. The Vln. I part has a dynamic marking *div.* and a performance instruction *(slow, even gliss.)*. The Vln. II part has a dynamic marking *div.*

## RUMORS FROM AN AEOLIAN HARP

2

16

**Poco meno** ♩ = 40

Sop. soloist: **f** stark, harsh

S seen, has nev - er been, such as here lives with toil and  
A seen, has nev - er been  
T where foot of man has nev - er been,  
B where foot of man has nev - er been,

Vln. I (slow, even gliss.) ♭  
Vln. II ♭  
Vla. ♭  
Vcl. ♭  
Cb. ♭

**Poco meno** ♩ = 40

unis. unis.

22 (soloist)

S strife, Mezzo soloist **f** stark, harsh an anx - ious and a sin - ful life.

**accel.** **To I** ♩ = 50

tutti S There is a vale!

A There is a vale!

T There is a vale, a vale!

B There is a vale, a vale!

Vln. I unis. ♭  
Vln. II ♭  
Vla. ♭  
Vcl. ♭  
Cb. ♭

**accel.** **To I** ♩ = 50

**f** (slow, even gliss.) ♭  
**f** (slow, even gliss.) ♭  
**f**

*Dolce, lilting, poco più mosso* ♩ = 62

28

Vln. I      *soli*      *mf*

Vln. II      *mf*

Vla.      *mf*

div.      unis.

34

Vln. I      *soli*      *mf*

Vln. II      *mf*

Vla.      *mf*

Vcl.      *mf*

Cb.      *mf*

div.      unis.

40

S      rit.      *T<sup>0</sup> I*      ♩ = 50

A

There ev-er-y vir-tue eve -  
ev-er-y vir -

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.      *unis.*

Vcl.

Cb.

rit.      *T<sup>0</sup> I*      ♩ = 50

\* "Every" sung in three syllables, when indicated.

## RUMORS FROM AN AEOLIAN HARP

4

47

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: "ry vir - tue, There eve - ry vir-tue has its birth," followed by "tue, eve-ry vir-tue There eve - ry vir - tue," and "ev-er-y vir - tue, ev - er - y eve - ry vir - tue, There \_\_\_\_".

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: "tue, eve-ry vir-tue There eve - ry vir - tue," and "ev-er-y vir - tue, ev - er - y eve - ry vir - tue, There \_\_\_\_".

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: "ev-er-y vir - tue, ev - er - y eve - ry vir - tue, There \_\_\_\_".

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: "eve - ry vir-tue has its birth, \_\_\_\_".

Violin I (Vln. I) playing sustained notes.

Violin II (Vln. II) playing sustained notes.

Viola (Vla.) playing sustained notes.

Cello (Cb.) playing sustained notes.

Double Bass (Vcl.) playing sustained notes.

51

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: "eve - ry vir - tue has its birth," followed by "its birth, \_\_\_\_".

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: "its birth, vir - tue has its birth, \_\_\_\_".

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: "ev-er-y vir - tue there ev-er - y eve - ry vir - tue has its birth, \_\_\_\_".

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: "eve - ry vir - tue has its birth, \_\_\_\_".

Violin I (Vln. I) playing sustained notes.

Violin II (Vln. II) playing sustained notes.

Viola (Vla.) playing sustained notes.

Cello (Cb.) playing sustained notes.

Double Bass (Vcl.) playing sustained notes.

Double Bass (Vcl.) playing pizzicato.

Double Bass (Vcl.) playing mf pizzicato.

## RUMORS FROM AN AEOLIAN HARP

5

55

S Ere it de - scends u - pon the  
A Ere it de - scends u - pon the  
T Ere it de - scends u - pon the  
B Ere it de - scends u - pon the

Vln. I *mp* *pp* *mf* (div.)  
Vln. II *mp* *pp* *mf* div.  
Vla. *mp* *pp* *mf* arco  
Vcl. *mf* arco  
Cb. *mf* arco

59 Sop. solo: There \_\_\_\_\_  
S Earth. eve - ry vir - tue  
A Earth. There, \_\_\_\_\_ There, \_\_\_\_\_ eve - ry Vir - tue  
T Earth. There, \_\_\_\_\_ There, \_\_\_\_\_ Vir - tue, There,

B Earth. There, \_\_\_\_\_ There, \_\_\_\_\_  
Vln. I *mp* *pp*  
Vln. II *mp* *fp* *pp* *fp* *pp* *fp*  
Vla. *mp* *unis.* *sul pont.* *ord.* *sul pont.*  
Vcl. *div.* *unis.* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*  
Cb. *div.* *unis.*

Vln. I first two stands only: *mp* *pp*  
Vln. II *mp* *fp* *pp* *fp* *pp* *fp*  
Vla. *mp* *unis.* *sul pont.* *ord.* *sul pont.*  
Vcl. *div.* *unis.* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*  
Cb. *div.* *unis.*

(those with C extension play low C#)

## RUMORS FROM AN AEOLIAN HARP

6  
63 (tutti)

S has its birth. *cresc.* And

A has its birth, ev-er-y Vir - tue, there ev-er-y Vir - tue, ev-er-y, ev-er-y Vir - tue. *cresc.* *tutti* *mf*

T There ev-er-y Vir - tue, *cresc.* *tutti* *mf*

B Eve - ry Vir - tue. *cresc.* *mf*

Vln. I *mp* *mf*

Vln. II *pp* *ord.* *fp* *sul pont.* *pp* *ord.* *fp* *pp*

Vla. *p* *mf* *p* *pp*

Vcl. *p* *pp*

Cb. *pp*

(first two stands) *tutti* *mf*

67

S thith - er eve - ry deed re - turns, *f* *poco rit.*

A And eve - ry deed eve - ry deed re - turns,

T And thith - er eve - ry deed eve - ry deed re - turns,

B And And (tutti) eve - ry deed re - turns, *f* *poco rit.*

Vln. I *mf* *f*

Vln. II *mf* *f*

Vla. *mf* *f*

Vcl. *mf* *f*

Cb. *mf* *f*

## RUMORS FROM AN AEOLIAN HARP

7

71 **a tempo**

Soprano soloist: *in gen-rous bos-om burns. There,*

Alto Soloist: *There,*

Alto Soloist: *burns.*

Alto Soloist: *in gen - rous bos-om burns, There,*

Tenor Soloist: *Which in gen - rous bos-om burns. There, There, There, There is a*

Bass Soloist: *Which in gen - rous bos-om burns. There, There, There, There is a*

**a tempo**

Solo Vln. 1: *mp* *mf*

Solo Vln. 2: *(OTHER VLN. I TACET)*

Vln. II: *4 violins*

Vla.: *4 violas*

Vcl.: *two cellos*

Cb.: *2 basses, divisi*

*sfp*

Vln. soloist 1: *p* *pp*

Vln. soloist 2: *p* *pp*

4 violins: *mf*

tutti: *p* *pp*

2 cellos: *p* *mf*

2 basses, divisi: *unis.*

Cb.: *pp*

Vln. soloist 1: *mf* *f*

Vln. soloist 2: *f*

4 violins: *p*

tutti: *p*

2 cellos: *f*

2 basses, divisi: *tutti*

Cb.: *mf*

**Più mosso**  $\text{♩} = 62$ 

A: *tutti* *mf* *f*

A: *a vale!*

T: *vale, a vale!*

B: *vale, a vale!*

**Più mosso**  $\text{♩} = 62$

Vln. I: *tutti* *mf*

Vln. II: *tutti* *mf*

Vla.: *espress.*

Vcl.: *div.*

Cb.: *f*

Vln. I: *f*

Vln. II: *espress. f tutti*

Vla.: *tutti*

Vcl.: *f*

Cb.: *mf f*

Vln. I: *mf*

Vln. II: *mf*

Vla.: *mf f*

Vcl.: *mf f*

Cb.: *mf f*

## RUMORS FROM AN AEOLIAN HARP

83

Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
Cb.

*mf* — *f*  
*mf* — *f*  
*mf* — *f*  
*mf* — *f*

89

Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
Cb.

*più f* — *p*  
*più f* — *p*  
*più f* — *mp*  
*più f* — *mp*  
*più f* — *mp*

*rit.* — *To I*  $\text{♩} = 50$

96 (tutti) *f*

S: There love is warm, and youth is young, and po - et - ry is yet

A: There love is warm, and youth is young, and po - et - ry is yet

T: love is warm, and po - et - ry is yet

B: love is warm, and po - et - ry is yet

*riten. sub.*

Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
Cb.

*mf*  
*mf*  
*mf*  
*mf*  
*mf*

*unis.*  
*div.*  
*unis.*  
*unis.*  
*mf*

*riten. sub.*

## RUMORS FROM AN AEOLIAN HARP

9

103 **a tempo**

Sop. Soloist

S

A

T

B

where po - et - ry \_\_\_\_\_ is yet un sung, —  
 where po - et - ry is yet un - sung, for  
 yet un - sung, for  
 un - sung, for  
 un - sung.

**a tempo**

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Cb.

109

Sop. Soloist

S

A

T

B

for, for, Vir - tue, for, ev - er - y Vir - tue, for, for Vir - tue,  
 Vir - tue Vir - tue, for Vir - tue, for Vir - tue  
 Vir - tue Vir - tue, for Vir - tue, for Vir - tue  
 for Vir - tue Vir - tue, for Vir - tue, for Vir - tue

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Cb.

## RUMORS FROM AN AEOLIAN HARP

10  
113

**poco riten.**

Sop. Soloist      S      A      T      B

Vir - tue still ad - ven - tures there, ad - ven - tures there, and free - ly breathes her

**a tempo**

Sop. Soloist      S      A      T      B

Vir - tue still ad - ven - tures there, ad - ven - tures there, breathes her

A

still ad - ven - tures there, ad - ven - tures there, breathes her

T

still ad - ven - tures there, ad - ven - tures there, breathes her

B

still ad - ven - tures there, ad - ven - tures there, breathes her

**poco riten.**

Solo Vln. 1      Vln. I      Vln. II      Vla.      Vcl.      Cb.

Vln. soloist 1

mp      mp      mp      mp      mp      mp

unis.      unis.      unis.      unis.      unis.      unis.

**a tempo**

mf      mf      mf      mf      mf      mf

117

Sop. Soloist      S      A      T      B

na - tive air. p      na - tive air. p      na - tive air. p      na - tive air. p

rit.

still may hear its ves - per

you still may hear its ves - per

And ev - er if you heark - en well, you still may hear its ves - per

And ev - er if you heark - en well, you still may hear its ves - per

**p**      **p**      **p**      **p**

Solo Vln. 1      Vln. I      Vln. II      Vla.      Vcl.      Cb.

rejoin section

p      p      p      p      p      p

rit.

mf      mf      mf

div.

## RUMORS FROM AN AEOLIAN HARP

11

*a tempo*

122 *Più mosso* ♩ = 62

S: bell, tread of high souled men go by, go  
A: bell, and tread of high souled men go by, go  
T: bell, and tread of high souled men  
B: bell, and tread of high souled men

*senza vib., pale* *p sub.* *mp*

*senza vib., pale* *p sub.* *mp*

*a tempo*

122 *Più mosso* ♩ = 62

Vln. I: *p* *mf*  
Vln. II: *p* *mp < mf*  
Vla.: *mp* *mf*  
Vcl.: *mf*  
Cb.: *mf*

127 *ord.* *mf*

S: by, Their thoughts con - vers - ing with the sky!  
A: by, Their thoughts con - vers - ing with the sky!  
T: Their thoughts con - vers - ing with the sky!  
B: Their thoughts con - vers - ing with the sky!

*f* *ff* *ff*

Vln. II: *senza vib.* *mf*  
Vla.: *senza vib.* *mf*  
Vcl.: *senza vib.* *mf*  
Cb.: *senza vib.* *mf*

## RUMORS FROM AN AEOLIAN HARP

Soprano (S) vocal line:

*mf* There is a vale, \_\_\_\_\_ there is  
*mf* There is a vale, there is a vale, there  
*mf* There is a vale, there is a vale, \_\_\_\_\_ there is  
*mf* There is a vale, there is a vale, \_\_\_\_\_ there is  
*mf* There is a vale, there is a vale, there is a vale, there is

Violin I (Vln. I) and Violin II (Vln. II) play eighth-note patterns with dynamics *p*, *mp*, and *pp*. The violins play eighth-note patterns with dynamics *p*, *mp*, and *pp*.

Cello (Cb.) and Double Bass (Vcl.) play sustained notes with dynamics *fp* and *p*.

Soprano (S) vocal line:

a vale, a \_\_\_\_\_ vale!  
*f*

Alto (A) vocal line:

is a vale, a vale!  
*f*

Tenor (T) vocal line:

a vale, a \_\_\_\_\_ vale!  
*f*

Bass (B) vocal line:

a vale, a \_\_\_\_\_ vale!  
*f*

Solo Violin (Solo Vln. 1) plays a melodic line with dynamics *mp*, *f*, and *pp*.

Violin I (Vln. I) and Violin II (Vln. II) play eighth-note patterns with dynamics *p*, *mp*, and *pp*.

Cello (Cb.) and Double Bass (Vcl.) play sustained notes with dynamics *mp* and *pp*.

