

# HOW CLEAR, HOW LOVELY

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**A Partsong for Mixed Choir (SATB)**

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**Phillip A. Cooke**

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(2010)

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### PERFORMANCE NOTES

The *mmm* sound is a resonant humming sound, perhaps with a slightly open mouth if necessary to create a fuller sound.

The dotted arrow at bb 57-58 indicates a gradual shift from the word to a humming.

Duration: 5 minutes

Cover picture: 'Shropshire Hills' (Cooke)

For more information: [www.phillipcooke.com](http://www.phillipcooke.com)

### TEXT

How clear, how lovely bright,  
How beautiful to sight  
Those beams of morning play;  
How heaven laughs out with glee  
Where, like a bird set free,  
Up from the eastern sea  
Soars the delightful day.

To-day I shall be strong,  
No more shall yield to wrong,  
Shall squander life no more;  
Days lost, I know not how,  
I shall retrieve them now;  
Now I shall keep the vow  
I never kept before.

Ensanguining the skies  
How heavily it dies  
Into the west away;  
Past touch and sight and sound  
Not further to be found,  
How hopeless under ground  
Falls the remorseful day.

**Alfred E. Housman (1859 – 1936)**

## PROGRAMME NOTE

*How Clear, How Lovely* is a simple setting of Alfred Housman's famous poem for SATB unaccompanied choir. The work is one of a protracted set of 'partsongs' taking their influence from the Romantic idea of the partsong as a simple, homophonic, melody dominated piece often taking its inspiration from nature and other Romantic notions.

PAC

# HOW CLEAR, HOW LOVELY

ALFRED E. HOUSMAN (1859 - 1936)

a Partsong for Mixed Choir (SATB)

PHILLIP A. COOKE (2010)

Adagio tranquillo (♩ = c.52)

**Soprano**  
*pp espress.* *mp non troppo* *pp*  
How clear, how love - ly bright, How beau - ti - ful to sight Those

**Alto**  
*pp espress.* *mp non troppo* *pp*  
How clear, how love - ly bright, How beau - ti - ful to sight Those

**Tenor**  
*pp espress.* *mp non troppo* *pp*  
How clear, how love - ly bright, How beau - ti - ful to sight Those

**Bass**  
*pp espress.* *mp non troppo* *pp*  
How clear, how love - ly bright, How beau - ti - ful to sight Those

**Piano (rehearsal only)**  
*pp espress.* *mp non troppo* *pp*

**Soprano**  
*mp sim.* *pp* *mf* *mp*  
beams of morn - ing play; How hea - ven laughs out with glee Where, like a

**Alto**  
*mp sim.* *pp* *mp*  
beams of morn - ing play; How hea - ven laughs out with glee a

**Tenor**  
*mp sim.* *pp* *mp*  
beams of morn - ing play; How hea - ven laughs out with glee a

**Bass**  
*mp sim.* *pp* *mp*  
beams of morn - ing play; How hea - ven laughs out with glee a

**Piano (rehearsal only)**  
*mp sim.* *pp* *mf* *mp*

11

*mf* *p* *sub. f* *appass.* *p* *sub. mf*

bird set free, Up from the eas - tern sea Soars the del - ight - ful day, Soars.

*mf* *p* *sub. mp* *pp*

bird set free, Up from the eas - tern sea Soars

*mf* *p* *sub. mp* *pp*

8 bird set free, Up from the eas - tern sea Soars

*mf* *p* *sub. mp* *pp*

bird set free, Up from the eas - tern sea Soars

*mf* *p* *sub. f* *sub. mp* *p* *mf*

rit. - - - - -

16

*p* *sub. mp* *pp* *pp* *pp espress.*

the del - ight - ful day, Soars the del - ight - ful day. To -

*p* *pp* *pp espress.*

Soars *\*mmm* To -

*p* *pp* *pp espress.*

Soars *\*mmm* To -

*p* *pp* *pp espress.*

Soars *\*mmm* To -

*p* *mp* *pp* *pp espress.*

*p* *pp* *pp espress.*

*\* See preface for details.*

Primo tempo (♩ = c.52)

3

20

day I shall be strong, No more shall yield to wrong, Shall squander life no

day I shall be strong, No more shall yield to wrong, Shall squander life no

8 day I shall be strong, No more shall yield to wrong, Shall squander life no

day I shall be strong, No more shall yield to wrong, Shall squander life no

25

more; Days lost, I know not how, retrieve them now; I

more; Days lost, I know not how, retrieve them now; I

8 more; Days lost, I know not how, retrieve them now; I

more; Days lost, I know not how, I shall retrieve them now; I

... *ff* *appass.* *dim.*

shall re - trieve them now; Now I shall keep the vow I ne - ver kept be -

... *ff* *appass.* *dim.*

shall re - trieve them now; Now I shall keep the vow I ne - ver kept be -

... *ff* *appass.* *dim.*

shall re - trieve them now; Now I shall keep the vow I ne - ver kept be -

... *ff* *appass.* *dim.*

shall re - trieve them now; Now I shall keep the vow I ne - ver kept be -

... *ff* *appass.* *dim.*

shall re - trieve them now; Now I shall keep the vow I ne - ver kept be -

rit. - - - - - Primo tempo (♩ = c.52)

... *mf* ... ... *p* *pp* *espress.* *mp*

fore, I ne - ver kept be - fore. En - san - guin - ing the skies How

... *mf* ... ... *p* *pp* *espress.* *mp*

fore, I ne - ver kept be - fore. En - san - guin - ing the skies How

... *mf* ... ... *p* *pp* *espress.* *mp*

fore, I ne - ver kept be - fore. En - san - guin - ing the skies How

... *mf* ... ... *p* *pp* *espress.* *mp*

fore, I ne - ver kept be - fore. En - san - guin - ing the skies How

... *mf* ... ... *p* *pp* *espress.* *mp*

fore, I ne - ver kept be - fore. En - san - guin - ing the skies How

40 *pp* *mp*

heav - i - ly it dies In - to the west a - way; Past touch and sight and

heav - i - ly it dies In - to the west a - way; Past touch and sight and

heav - i - ly it dies In - to the west a - way; Past touch and sight and

heav - i - ly it dies In - to the west a - way; Past touch and sight and

rit. - - - - -

45 *pp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *p*

sound Not fur - ther to be found, How hope - less un - der - ground

sound to be found How hope - less un - der - ground

sound to be found How hope - less un - der - ground

sound to be found How hope - less un - der - ground

50 *p* molto espress. *pp* ✓ *p* *sim.* *pp* ✓ *p*

Falls the re - morse - ful day, Falls the re - morse - ful day, Falls the re - morse

Falls Falls Falls

Falls Falls Falls

Falls Falls Falls

*p* molto espress. *pp* *p* *pp* *p*

55 *pp* *ppp* *poss.* *mmm*

- ful day, Falls-----> mmm

Falls-----> mmm

Falls-----> mmm

Falls-----> mmm

*pp* *ppp* *poss.*