

I LIFT UP MY EYES



for Children's Choir (SSA) & Piano

Phillip A. Cooke

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(2009)

PERFORMANCE NOTE

Breath marks are suggestions only.
The soprano II part can be taken by altos if necessary.

For the RSCM Harold Smart Competition 2009

Duration: 4 minutes

Cover picture: 'Skiddaw Memorial' (Cooke)

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TEXT

I lift up my eyes to the hills – where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot slip, he who watches over you will not slumber.

I lift up my eyes to the hills – where does my help come from?
The Lord watches over you, the Lord is your shade at your right hand.
The sun will not harm you, nor will the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all harm.
He will watch over your life.
The Lord will watch over your coming and going.
Both now and forever more.

Amen.

Psalm 121 (adapted)

PROGRAMME NOTE

I Lift Up My Eyes is a simple setting of Psalm 121 for children's choir, a psalm that I have always been partial to growing up in the Lake District where the words seemed somewhat apt. The piece revolves around a *moto perpetuum* toccata figure in the piano which whirls around throughout the piece, the choir anchoring the music with their heartfelt plea of 'I lift up my eyes to the hills – where does my help come from?' Following this plea more strident music accompanies the powerful statements of the Lord's might as the choir erupts into a majestic E major. Following more of both the toccata and the strident music, more subdued material ends the piece as soft harmonies accompany the words 'both now and forever more'.

PAC

I LIFT UP MY EYES

PSALM 121 (Adapted)

for Children's Choir (SSA) & Piano

PHILLIP A. COOKE (2009)

Andante con moto (♩ = c.96)

Soprano 1

Soprano 2

Alto

Piano

legato (poss.)

f 6 6 6 6 *sim.*

8th

Ped. (sempre, ad lib)

A

3 Unison *p* *mf*

I lift up my eyes

p sempre

mf poco marc.

6 *p* *mf*

I lift up my eyes

28 *p* *p*

to the hills. where does

11 *mf*

my help come from? where does

B

Soprano 1 *p* *Largamente* (♩ = c.80) *p*

my help come from? My help comes from the

Soprano 2 *p* *p*

my help come from? My help comes from the

Alto *p* *p*

my help come from? My help comes from the

18 *f* *maestoso* *p*

LORD _____ the LORD _____ the ma - ker of hea - ven and

f *maestoso* *p*

LORD _____ the LORD _____ the ma - ker of hea - ven and

f *maestoso*

LORD the LORD _____ the LORD _____ the ma - ker of hea - ven and

f *p*

23 *f* *maestoso* *mf marc.* *f*

earth _____ and earth _____ He will not let your foot slip he who wat - ches ov - er

f *maestoso* *mf marc.* *f*

earth _____ and earth _____ He will not let your foot slip he who wat - ches ov - er

f *maestoso* *mf marc.* *f*

earth and earth _____ and earth _____ He will not let your foot slip he who wat - ches ov - er

f *mf*

C

D

rit. ----- **Andante con moto** (♩ = c.96)

28

mp *pp* ,

you will not slum - ber.

mp *pp* ,

you will not slum - ber.

mp *pp* ,

you will not slum - ber.

p *f*

legato (poss.)

6 6 6 6

8^{pb}-----

E

31

p ----- *mf*

I lift up my eyes

p ----- *mf*

I lift up my eyes

p ----- *mf*

I lift up my eyes

sim. *p*

mf poco marc.

34 *p* _____ *mf*

I lift up my eyes

I lift up my eyes

I lift up my eyes

36 *p* _____ *p* _____

to the hills where does

to the hills where does

to the hills where does

39 *mf*

my help come from? where does

my help come from? where does

my help come from? where does

F

Largamente (♩ = c.80)

42 *p*

my help come from? The LORD wa - tches o - ver

my help come from? The LORD wa - tches o - ver

my help come from? The LORD wa - tches o - ver

46 *f* *maestoso* *p*

you o - ver you The LORD is your

f *maestoso*

you o - ver you The LORD is your

f *maestoso*

you o - ver you o - ver you The LORD is your

f *p*

G

50 *f* *maestoso* *mf* *marc.*

shade at your right hand right hand the sun will not

f *maestoso* *mf* *marc.*

shade at your right hand right hand the sun will not

f *maestoso* *mf* *marc.*

shade at your right hand right hand right hand the sun will not

f *mf*

54

sub. f *mp* ✓ *pp* , *pp espress.*

harm you nor will the moon by night. The

sub. f *mp* ✓ *pp* , *pp espress.*

harm you nor will the moon by night. The

sub. f *mp* ✓ *pp* , *pp espress.*

harm you nor will the moon by night. The

p *p sempre*

8th

H

Tranquillo (♩ = c.60)

58

P cresc.

LORD will keep you from all harm. He will watch o - ver your life. the

P cresc.

LORD will keep you from all harm. He will watch o - ver your life. the

P cresc.

LORD will keep you from all harm. He will watch o - ver your life. the

(8)

62

mf non troppo *pp espress.*

LORD will_ watch o'er your co - ming and go - ing_ both now and for - e -

mf non troppo *pp espress.*

LORD will_ watch o'er your co - ming and go - ing_ both now and for - e -

mf non troppo *pp espress.*

LORD will_ watch o'er your co - ming and go - ing_ both now and for - e -

(8).....

rit. al fine. - - - - -

66

dim. *ppp*

- ver more. both now and for - e - ver more. A - men.

dim. *ppp*

- ver more. both now and for - e - ver more. A - men.

dim. *ppp*

- ver more. both now and for - e - ver more. A - men.

(8).....