

Drop, drop, slow tears

An anthem for SATB choir and organ

by

Philip Le Bas

setting words by

Phineas Fletcher (1623)

2021

Drop, drop, slow tears

for SATB choir and organ

Drop, drop, slow tears,
and bathe those beauteous feet,
which brought from heaven
the news and Prince of Peace.

Cease not, wet eyes,
his mercies to entreat;
to cry for vengeance,
sin doth never cease.

In your deep floods,
drown all my faults and fears;
nor let his eye see sin,
but through my tears.

Phineas Fletcher (1623)

Adagio doloroso ♩ = 44

Philip Le Bas

The musical score consists of six staves. The top four staves represent the SATB choir: SOPRANO, ALTO, TENOR, and BASS. The BASS staff includes a '8' below the staff, indicating an octave lower pitch. The bottom two staves represent the organ: Organ and Pedals. The tempo is marked as **Adagio doloroso ♩ = 44**. The dynamic for the vocal parts is **p** (piano). The organ parts are marked **pp** (pianissimo). The lyrics "Drop, drop, slow, slow" are repeated by each voice part at the end of the measures. The vocal parts enter sequentially, starting with the soprano, followed by alto, tenor, and bass. The organ parts provide harmonic support throughout the piece.

6

S. tears, slow tears, and bathe those beau - teous feet, which brought from

A. tears, drop slow tears, and bathe those beau - teous feet, and bathe those feet.

T. tears, drop slow tears, and bathe those beau - teous feet, which brought from

B. tears, slow tears, and bathe those beau - teous feet, and bathe those feet.

Org.

Ped.

9

S. heav'n_____ the news_ and_ Prince of Peace.

A. which brought from heav'n_ the Prince of Peace, of Peace.

T. heav'n_____ the news_ and_ Prince of Peace, of Peace.

B. which brought from heav'n_____ the Prince of Peace.

Org.

Ped.

13 *legatissimo*
S. ***pp***
Drop, slow tears. Drop, drop, slow, slow tears.
legatissimo
A. ***pp***
Drop, drop, slow, slow tears. Drop, drop, slow tears.
legatissimo
T. ***pp***
8 Drop, slow tears. Drop, drop, slow, slow
legatissimo
B. ***pp***
Drop, slow tears. Drop, slow tears.

Org. ***p***

Ped.

18 ***mf***
S. Drop, drop, slow, slow tears, slow tears, and bathe those beau - teous.
A. ***mf***
Drop, drop, slow, slow tears, slow tears, and bathe those beau - teous.
T. ***mf***
8 tears. Drop, slow, slow tears, drop slow tears, and bathe those beau - teous
B.
Drop, drop, slow, slow tears, slow tears, and bathe those beau - teous

Org.

Ped.

21

S. *mp*
feet, which brought from heav'n the news and Prince of

A. *mp*
feet, which brought from heav'n, which brought the news and Prince of

T. *mp*
feet, which brought from heav'n, which brought the news and Prince of

B. *mp*
feet, which brought from heav'n the news and Prince of

Org.

Ped.

24

S. *p* *f*
Peace. Cease not, cease not, cease not, wet eyes,

A. *p* *f*
Peace, of Peace. Cease not, cease not, cease not, wet eyes,

T. *mp* *f*
Peace, of Peace. Cease not, cease not, wet eyes,

B. *mf* *f*
Peace. Cease not, cease not, wet eyes,

Org. *mf* *p* *f*
Cease not, cease not, wet eyes,

Ped. *mf* *p* *f*

28

S. *p* *più ardente* *f*
wet, wet eyes, his mer-cy to en-treat; to cry for ven-geance:
più ardente *f*

A. *p*
wet, wet eyes, his mer - cy to en- treat; to cry for ven - geance,
più ardente *f*

T. *p*
wet, wet eyes, his mer-cy to en-treat; to cry for ven - geance,
più ardente *f*

B. *p*
wet, wet eyes, his mer - cy to en- treat; to cry for ven - geance,

Org. *p* *mf*

Ped. *f*

32

S. *ff* *sempre ff*
sin doth ne ver cease, sin doth ne - ver cease, sin, sin doth ne - ver cease.

A. *ff* *sempre ff*
ven - geance, ven - geance: sin doth ne-ver cease, sin doth ne - ver cease.

T. *ff* *sempre ff*
ven - geance: sin doth ne ver cease, sin doth ne - ver cease, sin doth ne - ver cease.

B. *ff* *sempre ff*
ven - geance, ven - geance: sin doth ne - ver, ne - ver cease.

Org. *f* *ff*

Ped. *ff*

L'istesso tempo ma più calmato

pp

S. In your deep, deep floods, deep floods, drown all my faults and

A. In your deep, deep floods, deep floods, drown all my faults and

T. *Mmm,* In your deep, deep floods, deep floods, drown all my faults, my

B. *Mmm,* In your deep, deep floods, drown all my

Org.

Ped. *pp*

41

S. fears, nor let your eyes see sin, nor let your eyes see

A. fears, nor let your eyes see sin, your eyes see

T. *Mmm,* faults and fears, nor let your eyes see sin, your eyes see

B. faults and fears, nor let your eyes, your eyes see

Org.

Ped.

44

S. sin, but through my tears, but through my tears.

A. sin, but through my tears, but through my tears, but through my tears.

T. sin, but through my tears, but through my tears, but through my tears.

B. sin, but through my tears, my tears, but through my tears.

Org. *p*

Ped. *p*

Seal 2021