

Emily's Songs



Christopher Marshall

Poems of Emily Dickinson (1830–86)

Part Two: Nature - XII

To hear an oriole sing
May be a common thing,
Or only a divine.

It is not of the bird
Who sings the same, unheard,
As unto crowd.

The fashion of the ear
Attireth that it hear
In dun or fair.

So whether it be rune,
Or whether it be none,
Is of within.

The tune is in the tree.
The sceptic showeth me;
“No, sir! In thee!”

Part One: Life - XXVII

I’m nobody! Who are you?
Are you nobody, too?
Then there’s a pair of us – don’t tell!
They’d banish us, you know.

How dreary to be somebody!
How public, like a frog
To tell your name the livelong day
To an admiring bog!

Part One: Life - XXXII

Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul
And sings the tune without the words
And never stops at all,

And sweetest in the gale is heard;
And sore must be the storm
That could abash the little bird
That kept so many warm.

I've heard it in the chillest land
And on the strangest sea,
Yet never, in extremity,
It asked a crumb of me.

Emily Dickinson

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Christopher Marshall

Commissioned by the Association for Music in International Schools in 2007
SATB arrangement for San Francisco Choral Artists, Magen Solomon, Artistic Director

To Hear An Oriole Sing

ATTN: Perusal score only!
One print-out allowed.
Please do not copy!

Reflective (♩ = ca. 72)
mp *p*

SOPRANO
To hear an o - ri - o - le sing [ng]

ALTO
mp *p*
May be a com - mon thing, [ng]

TENOR
mp
Or on - ly a di -

BASS
mp
Or on - ly a di -

4 *mp* *p*

Who sings the same un - heard,

mp *p*

It is not of the bird

- vine. As un - to

- vine. As un - to

8

mp *p*

The fa-shion of the ear [ə]

mp *p*

At-tir-eth that it hear [ə]

crowd. In dun or fair. So

crowd. In dun or fair. So

13

mp *p* *f*

Or whe-ther it be none, [n] The

mp *f*

ls of with - in. The

p *f*

whe-ther it be rune, [n] The

p *f*

whe-ther it be rune, [n] The

17

tune is in the tree, The scep-tic show - eth me;_ "No sir! In thee!"

tune is in the tree, The scep-tic show - eth me;_ "No sir! In thee!"

tune is in the tree, The scep-tic show - eth me;_ "No sir! In thee!"

tune is in the tree, The scep-tic show - eth me;_ "No sir! In thee!"

port. *fp* *f*

I'm Nobody

Playful (♩ = ca. 92)

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

I'm no - bo - dy! who are you? Are you no - bo - dy too? Then there's a

I'm no - bo - dy! who are you? Are you no - bo - dy too? Then there's a

mf *p* *mf*

5

p pair of us, don't tell! *mf* They'd ba-nish us, you know.

p pair of us, don't tell! *mf* They'd ba-nish us, you know.

p slightly mocking They'd_ ba - nish us, Yes they'd

p slightly mocking They'd_ ba - nish us, Yes they'd

10

mf How drea - ry to be

mf How drea - ry to be

mf ba - nish us, Oh they'd ba - nish us you know. How drea - ry

mf ba - nish us, Oh they'd ba - nish us you know. How drea - ry

14

Slower (♩ = ca. 68)
fp \leftarrow *f with feeling*

some - bo - dy! How pub - lic, like a frog To tell your name the

some - bo - dy! How pub - lic, like a frog To tell your name the

to be some - bo - dy! How pub - lic, like a frog To tell your name the

to be some - bo - dy! How pub - lic, like a frog To tell your name the

18

Come Prima (♩ = ca. 92)
pp

live - long day To an ad - mi - ring bog!

live - long day To an ad - mi - ring bog!

Whistling

p

live - long day To an ad - mi - ring bog!

live - long day To an ad - mi - ring bog!

22

mp
I'm no-bo-dy,

mp
I'm no-bo-dy,

mf p

p
I'm no - - - bo -

p
I'm no - - - bo -

27

I'm no-bo-dy, I'm no-bo-dy, no-bo-dy, I'm no-bo-dy.

I'm no-bo-dy, I'm no-bo-dy, no-bo-dy, I'm no-bo-dy.

- dy, no - bo - dy.

- dy, no - bo - dy.

Hope Is The Thing With Feathers

Joyful (♩ = ca. 108)

mf

SOPRANO
Hope is the thing with fea - thers___ That_ perch - es in___ the soul___ And

mf

ALTO
Hope is the thing with fea - thers___ That_ perch - es in___ the soul_____ And

mf

TENOR
Hope is the thing with fea - thers That_ perch - es in___ the soul___ And

mf

BASS
Hope is the thing with fea - thers That perch - es in the soul_____ And

5

p

sings the tune___ with - out the words___ And ne - ver stops___ at___ all,_____

p

sings the tune___ with - out the words___ And ne - ver stops___ at all, it ne - ver

p

sings the tune with - out the words___ And ne - ver stops___ at___ all, it ne - ver

p

sings the tune with - out the words And ne - ver stops at all, it ne - ver

9

it ne - ver stops, [u]

stops, [u]

stops at all, [u]

mp

stops at all, And sweet-est in the gale is heard; And sore must be the storm That

14

[u]

[u]

[u]

could a - bash the lit - tle bird that kept so ma - ny warm, that kept so

19

mp
 — so ma - ny — warm. [u] —

mf
 — I've heard it — in the chil - lest land — And — on the strang - est sea, — Yet

mp
 — [u] — [u] —

mp
 ma - ny warm. [u] — [u] —

24

— [u] —

mp
 ne - ver in — ex - tre - mi - ty — it asked a crumb — of — me. It ne -

It ne - ver

It ne - ver

29

f

It ne - ver asked a crumb of me. Hope is the thing with

f

- ver asked a crumb of me. Hope is the thing with

f

asked a crumb of me. Hope is the thing with

f

asked, it ne - ver asked a crumb of me. Hope is the thing with

33

fea - thers That perch - es in the soul And sings the tune with - out the words And

fea - thers That perch - es in the soul And sings the tune with - out the words And

fea - thers That perch - es in the soul And sings the tune with - out the words And

fea - thers That perch - es in the soul And sings the tune with - out the words And

38

ne-ver stops at all, it ne-ver stops, it ne-ver stops, it ne-ver stops

ne-ver stops at all, it ne-ver stops, it ne-ver stops, it ne-ver stops

ne - ver stops at all, it ne - ver stops at all, it ne - ver, ne - ver

ne - ver stops at all, it ne - ver stops at all, it ne - ver, ne - ver

42

at... Hope is the thing with fea-thers, hope is the

at... Hope is the thing with fea - thers, hope is the thing with

stops at... Hope is the thing with fea - thers,

stops at all. Hope is the thing with fea-thers, hope

46 *mf*

thing with fea-thers, hope__ is the thing with fea-thers, hope__ is the

mf

fea - thers, hope__ is the thing with fea - thers, hope__ is the thing with

mf

8 hope is the thing____ with fea - thers, hope is the thing____ with fea - thers,

mf

__ is the thing with fea-thers, hope__ is the thing with fea-thers, hope

49 *pp* *f* **meno mosso** **a tempo**

thing with fea-thers, hope__ is the thing with fea - thers, Hope is the thing____ with fea-thers.

pp *f* *fp* (*f*)

fea - thers, hope__ is the thing with fea - thers, Hope is the thing with fea-thers.

pp *f* *fp* (*f*)

8 hope is the thing____ with fea - thers, Hope is the thing with fea-thers.

pp *f* *fp* (*f*)

__ is the thing with fea - thers, Hope is the thing with fea-thers.

Vaia'ata Print

Choral Music of Christopher Marshall

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<i>Advent Triptych</i>	SATB (bass + soprano solos in #2), Moderate/advanced, ±9".
<i>Alas For Those Who Never Sing</i>	TTBB, Moderate/advanced, ±3".
<i>Bless This House!</i>	SATB, solo sop. & bar., org., 3 tpt., 3 tbn., timp., 2 perc. Moderate/advanced, ±10".
<i>Cançó del Mar</i>	Double SATB, cl., b.cl., hp., vln., vcl., d.b. Moderate/advanced, ±10".
<i>Christmas Carols from New Zealand</i>	SATB, #1 'a cappella', #2 + organ and descant. Easy/moderate, ±6".
<i>Consider the Lilies</i>	SATB (some divisions, optional alto solo), Moderate, ±3".
<i>Dona Nobis Pacem</i>	SSATBB, Easy/moderate, ±5".
<i>Earth Song</i>	SA, 3 tamb., sop. instruments (ad lib), Moderate, ±5".
<i>Earthsong</i>	SA (children), SATB + full orchestra, Moderate, ±15".
<i>Epitaph</i>	TTBB, Easy, ±2"
<i>Emily's Songs</i>	SATB, Moderate/advanced, ±4".
<i>Golden Carol</i>	SATB, Easy/moderate, ±3".
<i>Hanukkah In Santa Monica</i>	TTBB, Moderate, ±4"
<i>High Flight</i>	SATB + alto sax, Moderate/advanced, ±11".
<i>I Hold Your Hand In Mine</i>	SSATB, Easy, ±3".
<i>Kyrie: Gaia</i>	SATB + sop. solo, pno., org., strgs., perc., Moderate/advanced, ±20".
<i>La Rose</i>	SATB (divisions in all parts) + ten., sop. soloists, Advanced, ±6".
<i>Levavi Oculos Meos</i>	Double SATB, Easy/moderate, ±5".
<i>Nobody</i>	SSATBB, Moderate/advanced, ±3".
<i>O Fragile Human</i>	SATB (different voicings with divisions, solos in some songs), Moderate/advanced, ±25".
<i>Pastorale</i>	TTBB, solo sop., fl., ob., c.a., cl., b.cl., bsn., vib., Moderate/advanced, ±10".
<i>Real Gods</i>	SATB (some divisions, optional alto solo), Advanced, ±8".
<i>Samoa Sings</i>	SSAA or TTBB (divisions, solos in some songs), Moderate, ±10".
<i>Songs of Samoa</i>	SATB (divisions, solos in some songs), Moderate, ±15".
<i>Tangi</i>	SATB + mezzo-soprano solo. Moderate/advanced, ±12".
<i>The Desert Shall Blossom</i>	SATB. Advanced, ±4".
<i>The Last Ones</i>	SATB + piano. Moderate, ±5".
<i>The Water of Life</i>	SATB (some divisions) + organ. Moderate, ±5".
<i>This Big Moroccan Sea</i>	SATB (divisions in all parts) + soprano and tenor solos. Advanced, ±4".
<i>To The Horizon (Images of New Zealand)</i>	SATB (different voicings, divisions, solos), Moderate/advanced, ±30".
<i>Two Samoan Songs</i>	SA + piano, Easy, ±5".
<i>U Trau</i>	SSAATB + 2 wind ensembles, Moderate, ±11".
<i>Wings</i>	SAB + piano, Easy, ±3".
<i>With Love At Christmas</i>	SATB (some divisions), Moderate, ±5".

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