

Michal Dawson Connor



# MY LORD, WHAT A MORNING

FOR SATB CHOIR AND TREBLE SOLO A CAPPELLA

Michal Dawson Connor

## MY LORD WHAT A MORNING

for solo voice and piano

An indomitable sense of hope, and unvarnished sorrow, permeate each line and melody of these unforgettable songs- forged in the anvil of abject misery and despair, aching for freedom's light.

Humiliated beyond all human reckoning, and given no respite from the daily drudgery of endless toil- these fiercely resilient souls somehow persevered, despite the harshest obstacles- leaving behind a true golden legacy of words and music to cherish.

In his famous autobiography, Frederick Douglass wrote:

*"Slaves sing most when they are most unhappy. The songs of the slave represent the sorrows of his heart; and he is relieved by them, only as an aching heart is relieved by its tears."*

I am deeply honored to present these musical footprints of my proud ancestors- and hope that by singing them, we pause to remember the undaunted courage and grit of the men and women who originally composed them.

— MICHAL DAWSON CONNOR

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# My Lord, What a Morning

for SATB Choir and Treble Solo *a cappella*

Arr. Michal Dawson Connor

**Voluttuoso** (♩=60)

Solo Voice

Oh, no - bo - dy else — could walk it for Him — He had to

4

Solo

walk it by Him - self.

S

When the night has pass'd and the sor - row — flown, Oh

A

When the night has pass'd and the sor - row flown, Oh —

T

When the night has pass'd - and the sor - row flown, oh

B

When the weep-ing has pass'd and the sor - row flown, oh

Pno.

"My Lord, What a Morning"

7

*f*

S Lord have mer-cy on me! You can hear the trum-pet sound to a -

A Lord have mer-cy on mer-cy on me! You can hear the trum-pet sound to a -

T Lord have mer-cy on, mer-cy on me! You can hear the trum-pet sound to a -

B Lord have mer-cy on, mer - cy me! You can hear the trum-pet sound to a -

Pno.

11

S wake the na-tions un-der ground look to my God's right hand. When the

A wake the na-tions un-der un-der ground, look-ing to my God's right, God's right hand.

T wake the na-tions un-der, un - der ground look-ing to my God's right God's right hand.

B wake the na-tions un-der, un - der ground look to God's right, God's right hand,

Pno.

"My Lord, What a Morning"

15

S *p sub. dolce* *f*  
stars be-gin to fall my Lord, what a morn-ing, oh Je-sus

A *p sub.* *f*  
Stars be-gin to, stars be-gin to fall, my Lord, what a morn-ing, oh Je-sus

T *p sub.* *f*  
Stars be-gin to, stars be-gin to fall I'm sing-ing my Lord, what a morn-ing, oh Je-sus

B *p sub.* *f*  
stars be-gin to, stars fall down, my Lord, what a morn-ing, oh Je-sus

Pno.

19

S *p*  
my Lord, what a morn-ing, oh, my Lord, what a morn-ing when the

A *p*  
my Lord, what a morn-ing, oh, my Lord, what a morn-ing, Lord, when the

T *p*  
my Lord, what a morn-ing, oh, my Lord, what a morn-ing, Lord, when the

B *p*  
my Lord, what a morn-ing, oh, my Lord, what a morn-ing, Lord, when the

Pno.

"My Lord, What a Morning"

23

S  
stars be - gin to fall, when the stars be - gin to fall, \_\_\_\_\_

A  
stars be - gin to fall down low, when the stars be - gin to, stars be - gin to fall,

T  
stars be - gin to fall down low, when the stars be - gin to, stars be - gin to fall, you can *mf*

B  
stars be - gin to fall down low, when the stars be - gin to fall down low, you can

Pno.

27

S *mp* hear - a plain - tive cry mourn - ful cry *f* rise a - wake the chil - dren wait - ing 'way up yon - der *rit.*

A *mp* hear a plain - tive cry, mourn - ful cry *f* rise a - wake the chil - dren wait - ing 'way up yon - der

T hear a plain - tive cry, cry, cry, to rise a - wake the chil - dren wait - ing 'way - up yon - der

B *mp* hear a plain - tive cry, cry, rise a - wake the child - ren wait - ing 'way up yon - der *rit.*

Pno.

"My Lord, What a Morning"

31 **A tempo**

S look-ing to my God's right hand, His hand. When the stars be - gin to

A look-ing to my God's right hand, His hand. Stars be - gin to

T look-ing to my God's right hand, His hand. Stars be - gin to fall, be - gin to

B look-ing to my God's right hand, His hand. Stars be - gin to

**A tempo**

Pno.

34

S fall — 'way down yon-der my Lord, what a morn - ing, oh Je - sus, my Lord, what a

A fall — 'way down yon-der my Lord, what a morn - ing, oh Je - sus, my Lord, what a

T fall, fall, 'way down yon-der my Lord, what a morn - ing, oh Je - sus, my Lord, what a

B fall — 'way down yon-der my Lord, what a morn - ing, oh, Je - sus, my Lord, what a

Pno.

*f* *p* *p sub.*

## "My Lord, What a Morning"

38 **poco rit.**

S  
morn - ing, oh, my Lord, what a morn - ing, when the

A  
morn - ing, oh, my Lord, what a morn - ing, when the

T  
morn - ing, oh, my Lord, what a morn - ing, when the

B  
morn - ing, oh my Lord, what a morn - ing, when the

**poco rit.**

Pno.

41 **A tempo**

S  
stars be - gin to, when the night has pass'd and the sor - row flow'n, oh

A  
stars be - gin to, when the night has pass'd and the sor - row flow'n, oh

T  
stars be - gin to, when the night has pass'd and sor - row flow'n, oh

B  
stars be - gin to, when the weep - ing has pass'd and the sor - row has flow'n, oh

**A tempo**

Pno.



"My Lord, What a Morning"

44

S *f* *mf dolce*  
 Lord have mer - cy hmm oh, my Lord, have mer - cy on me. hmm

A *f* *mf*  
 Lord have mer - cy hmm oh my Lord, have mer - cy on, mer - cy Lord!

T *f* *mf*  
 Lord have mer - cy hmm oh my Lord, have mer - cy on, mer - cy Lord!

B *f* *mf*  
 Lord have mer - cy hmm oh my Lord, have mer - cy on, mer - cy Lord!

Pno. *mf*

47

S *molto rit.* *p*  
 mer - cy Lord, on me.

A *p*  
 mer - cy Lord! Lord, on, on me!

T *p*  
 mer - cy Lord! Lord on, on me!

B *p*  
 mer - cy Lord! Lord, on, on me!

Pno. *molto rit.*