

Michal Dawson Connor



## MOURNING DOVE

FOR SOPRANO SOLO AND MEN'S CHOIR A CAPPELLA

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## MOURNING DOVE

for soprano solo and men's choir a cappella

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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# Mourning Dove

for soprano solo and men's choir *a cappella*

Spiritual

Arr. Michal Dawson Connor

**Passionato** (♩=55)

Soprano solo

Woo-hoo, hoo, woo-hoo, hoo, Woo-hoo, hoo, woo-hoo, hoo.

T 1

Wish I was a dove, a mourn-ing dove, I was a mourn - ing dove. Wish I was a

T 2

Wish I was a dove, a mourn - ing dove, I was a mourn-ing, mourn-ing dove. Wish I was a

B 1

Wish I was a dove, a mourn - ing dove, I was a mourn-ing, mourn-ing dove. Wish I was a

B 2

Wish I was a dove, a mourn - ing dove, I was a mourn - ing dove. Wish I was a

Pno.

(for rehearsal only)

10

Sop. solo

Lord how come me here?

T 1

mourn-ing dove, fly a-way from here, far from here. Wish I was a dove, a mourn-ing

T 2

mourn-ing dove, fly a-way from here, far from here. Wish I was a dove, a mourn - ing

B 1

mourn-ing dove, fly a-way from here, far from here. Wish I was a dove, a mourn - ing

B 2

mourn-ing dove, fly 'way from here, far from here. Wish I was a dove, a mourn - ing

Pno.

16

Sop. solo

Lord\_\_\_\_\_ how come me here? Lord\_\_\_\_\_ how come me here? I

T 1

dove, I was a mourn - ing dove. Wish I was a mourn-ing dove,

T 2

dove, I was a mourn-ing, mourn-ing dove. Wish I was a mourn-ing dove,

B 1

dove, I was a mourn-ing, mourn-ing dove. Wish I was a mourn-ing dove,

B 2

dove, I was a mourn - ing dove. Wish I was a mourn-ing dove,

Pno.

20

Sop. solo

wish I ne-ver was born!

T 1

fly a - way from here, far from hmm. *f* Can't see the sun-light,

T 2

fly a - way from here, far from hmm. *f* Can't see the sun-light,

B 1

fly a - way from here, far from hmm. *f* Can't see the sun-light,

B 2

fly 'way from here, far from hmm. *f* Can't see the sun-light,

Pno.

24

T 1

clouds get in my way, fly - ing to Jor - dan Je - sus hear me pray. \_\_\_\_\_

T 2

clouds get in my way, fly - ing to Jor - dan Je - sus hear me pray, pray.

B 1

clouds get in my way, fly - ing to Jor - dan Je - sus hear me pray. I'm \_\_\_\_\_

B 2

clouds get in my way, fly - ing to Jor - dan Je - sus hear me, hear me pray,

Pno.

27

T 1

Wear-y of toil-ing 'til this life is done lift me high - er on the wings of

T 2

Wear-y of toil-ing 'til this life is done lift me high - er on the wings of

B 1

wear-y of toil-ing 'til this life is done lift me high - er on the wings of

B 2

wear-y of toil-ing 'til this life is done lift me high - er on the wings of

Pno.

31

*mf*

Sop. solo

They treat me\_\_\_\_\_ so mean... Lord!

T 1

*mp*

song! Can't see the sun - light, clouds get in my way,

T 2

*mp*

song! Can't see the sun - light, clouds get in my way,\_\_\_\_

B 1

*mp*

song! Can't see the sun - light, clouds get in my way,

B 2

*mp*

song! Can't see the sun - light, clouds get in my way,

Pno.

34

Sop. solo

Treat me\_\_\_\_\_ so mean... Lord! They treat me\_\_\_\_\_ so mean...

T 1

fly - ing to Jor - dan Je - sus hear me pray, pray. Wear - y of toil - ing 'til

T 2

fly - ing to Jor - dan Je - sus hear me pray,\_\_\_\_ pray. Wear - y of toil - ing 'til

B 1

fly - ing to Jor - dan Je - sus hear me pray. I'm\_\_\_\_ Wear - y of toil - ing 'til

B 2

fly - ing to Jor - dan Je - sus hear me, hear me pray, Wear - y of toil - ing 'til

Pno.

37

Sop. solo

Lord! I wish I ne - ver was born!

T 1

this life is gone. Lift me high - er on the wings of

T 2

this life is gone. Lift me high - er on the wings of

B 1

this life is gone. Lift me high - er on the wings of

B 2

this life is gone. Lift me high - er on the wings of,

Pno.

40

**Allargando**

*poco cresc.* *pp sub.*

Sop. solo

Woo-hoo, hoo, woo-hoo, hoo.

T 1

*poco cresc.* *pp sub.*

song! On the wings of song! Hmm.

T 2

*poco cresc.* *pp sub.*

song! On the wings of song! Hmm.

B 1

*poco cresc.* *pp sub.*

song! On the wings of song! — Hmm.

B 2

*poco cresc.* *pp sub.*

on the wings of song, of song! Hmm.

**Allargando**

Pno.