

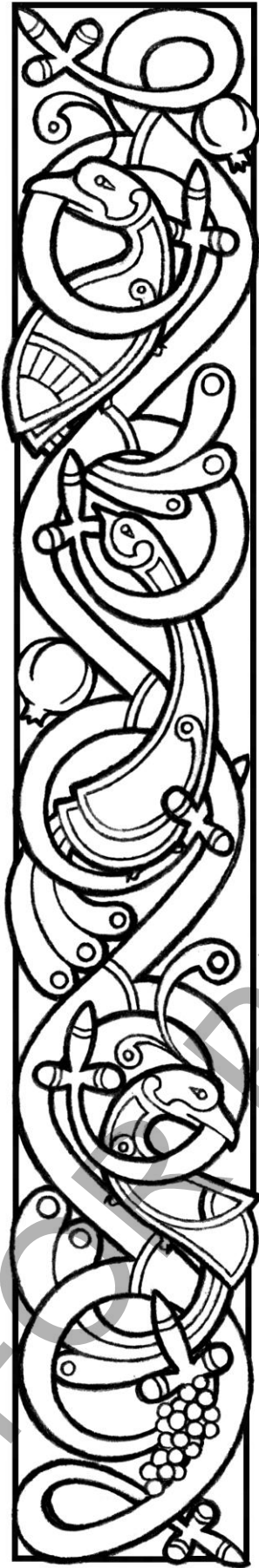
HP04-08

Eddie Hill

# A Birthday

for SATB (divisi) a cappella chorus

text by Christina Rossetti



## A Birthday

My heart is like a singing bird  
Whose nest is in a water'd shoot;  
My heart is like an apple-tree  
Whose boughs are bent with thickset fruit;  
My heart is like a rainbow shell  
That paddles in a halcyon sea;  
My heart is gladder than all these  
Because my love has come to me.

Raise me a dais of silk and down;  
Hang it with vair and purple dyes;  
Carve it in doves and pomegranates,  
And peacocks with a hundred eyes;  
Work it in gold and silver grapes,  
In leaves and silver fleurs-de-lys;  
Because the birthday of my life  
Is come, my love is come to me.

text of "A Birthday" from Christina Rossetti, *Poems* (1890)

COVER ART by ROBERT VORK

Commissioned by the Camerata Singers of West Michigan  
for their 25th Anniversary Concert

# A BIRTHDAY

CHRISTINA ROSSETTI

EDIE HILL

**♩ = c.100 Spirited, brightly**

Soprano

*p* *crisp, lively (background)*

cher-ry up cher-ry dee— cher-ry up cher-ry dee— cher-ry up cher-ry

*p* *crisp, lively (background)*

cher-ry up cher-ry dee

Tenor

Bass

**♩ = c.100 Spirited, brightly**

Piano  
(for rehearsal only)

5

*mf* *singing out, joyfully*

S My heart— is like a sing - ing bird— Whose

S dee cher-ry up cher-ry dee— cher-ry up cher-ry dee—

A cher-ry up cher-ry dee— cher-ry up cher-ry dee cher-ry up cher-ry

T

B

5

9

S nest is in a wa - ter'd shoot; My heart\_ is like an ap - ple tree\_ Whose

S cher-ry up cher-ry dee My heart\_ is like an ap - ple tree\_

A dee cher-ry up cher-ry dee

T

B

*mf* *mf* *pp*

13

S boughs are bent, boughs\_ are bent\_ with thick - set fruit; *poco rit.* -----

A boughs\_ are bent\_ with thick - set oo\_

T boughs are bent thick - set fruit;

B boughs are bent\_ with thick - set fruit;

*mp* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mf*

a little slower

*molto rall.*

$\text{♩} = c.76$

16 *sub. p* *mf* *pp*

S oo (grad. to) oh (grad. to) ah

S oo (grad. to) oh (grad. to) ah hal - cyon sea;

A My heart is like a rain - bow shell pad - dles in a hal - cyon sea;

T My heart is like a rain - bow shell pad - dles in a hal - cyon sea;

B My heart a rain - bow shell pad - dles in a hal - cyon sea;

16 a little slower *molto rall.*  $\text{♩} = c.76$

21 With building exuberance,  $\text{♩} = 100-104$

*mf* *f*

S My heart is glad - der than all these

A My heart is glad - der than all these, all these

T My heart is glad - der than all these ah

B Ah

21 With building exuberance,  $\text{♩} = 100-104$

Solo *delicately, with joy*

25 ♩ = c.80

Sop. Solo *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* my love has come to

S *mp* *mf* *p* Be - cause my love has come - to me,

A *mp* *mf* *p* Be - cause my love has come to me,

T *mf* *mp* *p* my love has come to me,

B *mf* *mp* *p* my love has come to me,

29 *again, delicately, with joy*

Sop. Solo *p* *mp* *pp* *p* *mf* *pp* me, my love has come to me.

S *p* *mp* *p* love has come, has come to me,

A *p* *mp* *p* love come, has come to me.

Ten. Solo *mp* *delicately, with joy* *mf* *mp* *pp* my love has come to me, has come to me.

T *p* *mp* *p* my love has come, has come to me.

B *p* *mp* *p* my love has come, has come to me.

♩ = 100-104

**A** *lightly, lively, joyfully*

**Tutti (S1)**

*mp*

35

S cher-ry up cher-ry dee — cher-ry up cher-ry dee —

S *mp* my love— has come to me. cher-ry up cher-ry

A

T *p*

B *p*

35

**A** ♩ = 100-104 *lightly, lively, joyfully*

40

S — cher-ry up cher-ry dee cher-ry up cher-ry dee — cher-ry

S dee cher-ry up cher-ry dee — cher-ry up cher-ry dee —

A *mp* la la — la la la la la la la la la *mp*

A la la

T

B

40

44

*mf* *mp* *mf*

S up cher-ry dee cher-ry up cher-ry dee

S cher-ry up cher-ry dee cher-ry up cher-ry dee

A la la la la la la la la la la la

A la la la la la la la la la la la

T

B *mf* la la la la

FOR PERSAL

47 *mf*

S cher-ry up cher-ry dee \_\_\_\_\_ cher-ry up\_ cher-ry dee \_\_\_\_\_ cher-ry

S \_\_\_\_\_ cher-ry up cher-ry dee \_\_\_\_\_ cher-ry up cher-ry dee cher-ry

A la la la la \_\_\_\_\_ la

A la la la la \_\_\_\_\_ la la la la la la la la \_\_\_\_\_ la la \_\_\_\_\_

T *mf* la la la la \_\_\_\_\_ la la la la la la la la

B \_\_\_\_\_ la la la la \_\_\_\_\_ la la la

47

**B** Robust, with vigor

50 *f* singing out

S up— cher-ry dee Raise me a da - is of silk and down;—

A *f* rum— rum— rum—

T *f* (close quickly to (mm) sound) rum (mm) rum— rum— rum— rum— rum Raise me a da - is of *f* singing out

B rum (mm) rum— rum— rum— rum— rum rum rum— rum

**B** Robust, with vigor

50

53

S Hang it with vair— and pur - ple dyes;

A rum— rum rum— rum Hang it with vair— and

T silk and down;— rum— rum— rum— rum

B rum— rum rum— rum— rum— rum— rum

53

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available for purchase.

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available for purchase.

Solo *singing out, joyfully*  
*mp* *mf*

C

71

Sop. Solo  
My— love— is come to me. ——— *p*

S1  
— is come, ——— *p* Tutti (S1) cher-ry up cher-ry dee ——— cher-ry

S2  
— is come, ——— cher-ry up cher-ry dee ———

A  
me, is come, ——— *p*

Ten. Solo  
71  
come— to me, ——— *p*

T  
— is come, ——— *p*

B  
— is come, ——— *p*

71

C

FOR PERSAL

76

S up — cher-ry dee — cher - ry up — cher - ry dee —

S - cher-ry up cher - ry dee — cher - ry up cher - ry

A cher - ry up cher-ry dee — cher - ry

T the birth - - - day

B the birth - - - day

76

79

S - cher-ry up cher - ry dee — cher - ry up — cher - ry

S dee cher - ry up cher - ry dee — cher - ry

A up cher-ry dee — cher - ry up cher - ry dee

T of my life is come, my *like trumpets*

B of my life is come, my *like trumpets*

79

82

S  
de e cher - ry up — cher - ry dee cher - ry

S  
up cher - ry dee cher - ry up cher - ry dee

A  
cher - ry up cher - ry dee cher - ry up cher - ry dee

T  
love — is come to me, my love — is come to

B  
love — is come to me, my love — is come to

82

Solo

*f* again, singing out with joy, soaring

85

Sop. Solo

my love \_\_\_\_\_ is come to me.

*mp* < *mf*

S

up cher-ry dee \_\_\_\_\_ my love \_\_\_\_\_ is come to me.

*mp* < *mf*

S

\_\_\_\_\_ my love \_\_\_\_\_ is come to me.

*mp* < *mf*

A

\_\_\_\_\_ my love \_\_\_\_\_ is come to me.

Solo *f* again, singing out with joy

85

Ten. Solo

my love \_\_\_\_\_ is come to me.

*mp* < *mf*

T

me, \_\_\_\_\_ my love \_\_\_\_\_ is come to me.

*mp* < *mf*

B

me, \_\_\_\_\_ my love \_\_\_\_\_ is come to me.

85



From solo to orchestra, epigram to epic, Edie Hill's music unfolds seamlessly in all spaces and idioms. Her music has been performed in such distinguished venues as Lincoln Center, LA County Museum of Art, the Library of Congress, The Schubert Club, Walker Art Center, Liviu Cultural Center (Romania) and Feszek Művészklub (Budapest). Her choral music is widely performed by renowned ensembles such as Cantus, the Rose Ensemble, VocalEssence, Dare to Breathe, The Dale Warland Singers, The Singers: Minnesota Choral Artists, Valborg Ensemble (The Netherlands), and Harmonium Choral Society, as well as by many collegiate and liturgical choirs throughout North America, Eastern and Western Europe. A three-time McKnight Artist Fellow and a two-time Bush Artist Fellow, Hill has been awarded grants from the Jerome Foundation, ASCAP and Chamber Music America, to name a few. She actively cultivates the talents of young composers and musicians as well as educating and engaging the public in the music of today. She has been a guest lecturer at such institutions as Syracuse University, the American Composers Forum, the Iowa Composers Forum Nuts N' Bolts Festival, Tufts University, the University of Michigan and Delft

University (Netherlands). She earned a B.A. in music composition and piano performance at Bennington College where she studied with Vivian Fine, then earned her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Minnesota with principle composition teacher Lloyd Ultan. She has also studied extensively with Libby Larsen. Hill is Currently Composer-in-Residence at St. Paul's Schubert Club where she runs the Composer Mentorship Program. She resides in Minneapolis where she works as a freelance composer.



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[email: edie@ediehill.com](mailto:edie@ediehill.com)

3324 Grand Avenue South • Minneapolis, MN 55408

612.825.9794