

Chris Artley

O My Children,
My Poor Children

*Commissioned by International Schools Choral Music Society,
Shanghai, February 2019*

For SATB Choir and Big Band

O My Children! My Poor Children!

Commissioned by International Schools Choral Music Society, Shanghai, February 2019

Henry Longfellow

Chris Artley

Slow straight bluesy feel

♩ = 53

molto rit.

The musical score is arranged for a large ensemble. It includes parts for Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Bari. Sax., Tpt. 1-4, Tbn. 1-3, B. Tbn., S., A., T., B., J. Gtr., Pno., Bass, and Dr. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). The tempo is marked 'Slow straight bluesy feel' with a quarter note equal to 53 beats per minute. The piece concludes with a 'molto rit.' (molto ritardando) instruction. Dynamics range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *fff* (fortississimo). The vocal parts (S., A., T., B.) have lyrics: 'O my chil-dren!', 'My poor chil-dren!', and 'O my chil-dren!'. The guitar part includes a 'tremolo pick' section. The piano part features a steady bass line with chords: Bb(#9), Eb(#9), Ab(#9), Db(#9), Gb13, and Eb/F.

A

$\text{♩} = 106$ swing feel

Alto 1 *f* *mf* *f*

Alto 2

Tenor 1

Tenor 2

Bari. Sax. *f* *mf* *f*

Tpt. 1 *f* *mf*

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Tpt. 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

B. Tbn. *f*

harmon mute (stem in)

S. chil- dren!

A. chil- dren!

T. chil- dren! *f* Lis- ten to the words of wis - dom, -

B. chil- dren! *f* Lis- ten to the words of wis - dom, -

J. Gtr. *f* *mf*

Pno. *f* *mf*

Bass *f* *mf*

$\text{♩} = 106$ swing feel

A

Dr. *f* *mf*

Alto 1
Alto 2
Tenor 1
Tenor 2
Bari. Sax.

Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tpt. 3
Tpt. 4
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
B. Tbn.

S.
A.
T.
B.

Lis - ten to the words of warn - ing, From the lips of the Great Spi - rit, From the Mas - ter of Life, who made you!

From the lips of the Great Spi - rit, From the Mas - ter of Life, who made you!

J. Gtr.
Pno.
Bass
Dr.

Bb13 D7 Gb13 F13 Eb9 D9 A6 A6 Bb13 Eb9 Eb/F Bb13 D7

Bb13 D7 Gb13 F13 Eb9 D9 A6 A6 Bb13 Eb9 Gb13 Eb/F Bb13 D7

Alto 1
Alto 2
Tenor 1
Tenor 2
Bari. Sax.

Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tpt. 3
Tpt. 4
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
B. Tbn.

S.
A.
T.
B.

mf I am wea-ry of your quar-rels, *f* Why then do you hunt eacho-ther? *mf* Why are you not con-ten-ted? *f* Why are you not con-ten-ted? *mf*

f Wea-ry of your wars, *f* Why do you fight? *mf* ah

mf I am wea-ry of your quar-rels, *f* Why then do you hunt eacho-ther? *mf* ah

f Wea-ry of your wars, *f* Why do you fight? *mf* ah

J. Gtr.
Pno.
Bass
Dr.

G^{b13} *F*¹³ *B*^{b7} *E*^{b7} *A*^{b7} *B*^{b7(♯5)} *E*^{b7} *C*^{m7(b5)} *F*^{m7(b5)} *B*^{b7(♯5)}

G^{b13} *F*¹³ *B*^{b7} *E*^{b7} *A*^{b7} *B*^{b7(♯5)} *E*^{b7} *C*^{m7(b5)} *F*^{m7(b5)} *B*^{b7(♯5)} *A*^{b7} *D*^{b7}

p *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *p*

p *mp* *mp* *mp* *p*

p *mp*

D

Alto 1

Alto 2

Tenor 1

Tenor 2

Bari. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Tpt. 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

B. Tbn.

S.

A.

T.

B.

do you hunt each o-ther? wea-ry of your prayer for ven-geance. wea-ry of your wars and blood-shed,

do wea-ry of your prayer for ven-geance. of your wrang-lings and dis-sen-sions,

do wea-ry of your prayer for ven-geance. wea-ry of your wars and blood-shed,

do wea-ry of your prayer for ven-geance. of your wrang-lings and dis-sen-sions,

J. Gtr.

Pno.

Ebm Abm Db7 Gbmaj7

Ebm Abm Db7 Gbmaj7

Bass

Dr.

Gbmaj7 Cm7(b9) Fm7(b9) Bb7(b9) Ebm Abm Db7 Gbmaj7

mf *f* *mf*

f *mf*

D

47

Alto 1 *mf* *p* *f* *mf*

Alto 2 *mf* *p* *f* *mf*

Tenor 1 *mf* *p* *f* *mf*

Tenor 2 *mf* *p* *f* *mf*

Bari. Sax. *f* *mf*

Tpt. 1 *mf*

Tpt. 2 *mf* *mf*

Tpt. 3 *mf* *mf*

Tpt. 4 *mf* *mf*

Tbn. 1 *mf* *mf*

Tbn. 2 *mf* *mf*

Tbn. 3

B. Tbn. *mf* *f*

S. *f* *ff*
 all your strength is in your u-nion, Wea-ry of, Wea-ry of, Wea-ry of, Wea-ry of, Wea-ry of,

A. *f* *ff*
 is in your u-nion, Wea-ry of, Wea-ry of, Wea-ry of, Wea-ry of, Wea-ry of,

T. *f* *ff*
 all your strength is in your u-nion, Your quar-rels, Your quar-rels, Your quar-rels, Your quar-rels, Your quar-rels,

B. *f* *ff*
 is in your u-nion, Your quar-rels, Your quar-rels, Your quar-rels, Your quar-rels, Your quar-rels,

J. Gtr. *f*

Pno. *f*

Bass *f*

Dr. *f*

Abm Bb7(#5) Ebm Abm Db7 Gbmaj7 Abm Bb7(#5) Ebm Abm Db7 Gbmaj7

Abm Bb7(#5) Ebm Abm Db7 Gbmaj7 Abm Bb7(#5) Ebm Abm Db7 Gbmaj7

Abm Bb7(#5) Ebm Abm Db7 Gbmaj7 Abm Bb7(#5) Ebm Abm Db7 Gbmaj7

Alto 1 *f* *mf* *f* *fp* *mf* *f* *fp*

Alto 2 *f* *mf* *f* *fp* *mf* *f* *fp*

Tenor 1 *f* *mf* *f* *fp* *mf* *f* *fp*

Tenor 2 *f* *mf* *f* *fp* *mf* *f* *fp*

Bari. Sax. *f* *ff*

Tpt. 1 *f* *ff* *solo mute* *ff* *3*

Tpt. 2 *f* *f*

Tpt. 3 *f* *f* *mute* *ff* *mute*

Tpt. 4 *f* *f* *ff* *mute*

Tbn. 1 *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *ff* *mute*

Tbn. 2 *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *ff* *mute*

Tbn. 3 *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *ff* *mute*

B. Tbn. *f* *ff*

S. Wea-ry of, — O my chil dren, my_poor chil - dren, O my chil dren, my_poor chil - dren.

A. Wea-ry of, — O my chil dren, my_poor chil - dren, O my chil dren, my poor chil - dren.

T. — Your quar - rels, my_poor chil - dren, O my chil dren, my poor chil - dren.

B. — Your quar - rels, my_poor chil - dren, O my chil dren, my poor chil - dren.

J. Gtr. *ff*

Pno. *ff* *mf*

Bass *ff* *mf*

Dr. *ff*

E

Alto 1 *mf* *solo* *f* *mf*

Alto 2

Tenor 1

Tenor 2

Bari. Sax.

Tpt. 1 *f* *mf*

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3 *mf* *p*

Tpt. 4 *mf* *p*

Tbn. 1 *mf* *p*

Tbn. 2 *mf* *p*

Tbn. 3 *mf* *p*

B. Tbn.

S.

A.

T.

B.

J. Gtr. *mf* *p* *mf* *f*

Pno. *p* *mf* *f*

Bass *p*

Dr. *mf* *p*

Ebm(maj7) *Abm7* *Bb7(#5)* *Ebm11* *Ebm(maj7)*

Ebm(maj7) *Abm7* *Bb7(#5)* *Ebm11* *Ebm(maj7)*

Alto 1
Alto 2
Tenor 1
Tenor 2
Bari. Sax.

Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tpt. 3
Tpt. 4
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
B. Tbn.

S.
A.
T.
B.

O my chil-dren, my_poor chil - dren, O my chil - dren,

J. Gtr.
Pno.
Bass
Dr.

Abm7 Bb7(#5) Em7 Cm7(b5) Fm7(b5) Bb7(9) Em7 Cm7(b5)

8va
ff

Abm7 Bb7(#5) Ebm7 Cm7(b5) Fm7(b5) Bb7(9) Ebm7 Cm7(b5)

F