

Dedicated to Diane Chartrand, retiring Interim Minister of Music at Grace Church, Rutland, Vermont,
as a gift from the Sanctuary Choir and Eddie Wilkin, Interim Choir Director

Were You There?

for SATB Chorus and Piano

African American spiritual

Gwyneth Walker

Altered and with additional words by G. Walker

At a slow, somber tempo ♩ = 100

Piano

p *simile*

with pedal

6

VERSE 1

unis. p sorrowfully

T
B

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my

A

11

S
A

p

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my

T
B

Lord?

15

B

S Lord? _____ Oh, _____ (no break)

A Lord, my Lord? Oh, _____ (no break)

T _____ Oh, _____ (p) (no break)

B _____ Oh, _____ (p) (no break)

B

_____ Led. _____

19

S some - times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble,

A some - times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble,

T some - times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble,

B some - times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble,

Piano accompaniment for the second system.

23

(no break)

S trem - ble. _____ Were you there _____ when they _

A trem - ble. _____ Were you there _____ when they _

T trem - ble. _____ Were you there _____ when they _

B trem - ble. _____ Were you there _____ when they

And.

26

poco accel.

S cru - ci - fied my Lord? _____

A cru - ci - fied my Lord? _____

T cru - ci - fied my Lord? _____

B cru - ci - fied my Lord? _____

poco accel.

cresc.

And.

6 [C] *f* with intensity and urgency

29

S My Lord, my Lord, my Lord.

A My Lord, my Lord, my Lord.

T Lord, Lord, my Lord.

B Lord, Lord, my Lord.

f with intensity and urgency

f with intensity and urgency

f with intensity and urgency

f with intensity and urgency

[C] *poco rit.*

Leo. Leo. Leo.

32

Slightly faster ♩ = 112, with motion

S

A

T

B

Slightly faster ♩ = 112, with motion

mf

Leo. Leo. Leo. Leo.

VERSE 2

D (Same tempo ♩ = 112)

mf dramatically

35

T
B

Were you there when they

D (Same tempo ♩ = 112)

Reo. Reo. Reo.

38

S
A

f

They nailed him, they nailed him to the cross.

T
B

nailed him to the cross?

41

S
A

f

They

T
B

(mf)

Were you there when they nailed him, and they nailed him to the

mf

49

S trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

A trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

T trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

B trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

53

S and then they nailed him, they -

A and then they nailed him, they -

T *mf* Were you there when they nailed him to the cross, and then they nailed him, they -

B *mf* Were you there when they nailed him to the cross, and then they nailed him, they

62

S
my Lord, my Lord, my

A
my Lord, my Lord, my

T
Lord, my Lord,

B
Lord, my Lord,

8

Loco. Loco.

(maintain tempo)

Suddenly slower ♩ = 100

and tenderly

65

S
Lord, my Lord, my Lord, He was my Lord.

A
Lord, my Lord, my Lord, Hmm

T
my Lord, my Lord, my Lord, Hmm And then the

B
my Lord, my Lord, my Lord, Hmm And then the

8

Loco. Loco.

unis., *p*

p

p, (*p*)

p, (*p*)

p

p

and tenderly

loco

(maintain tempo)

Suddenly slower ♩ = 100

and tenderly

VERSE 3

69 **G** *grandly* *f*

T
sun re - fused to

B
grandly *f*
sun re - fused to

G
p *f*
8vb *loco*
ped.

71

S
p
And then the

A
p
And then the

T
p
shine.

B
p
shine.

3 *3* *dim.* *3* *3* *3* *3*
p *3* *3* *3* *3*
ped. *ped.*

77 **H** *mf* *unis.* (no break)

S Oh, _____ some - times it caus - es me to

A *mf* (no break)
Oh, _____ some - times it caus - es me to

T *mf* (no break)
Oh, _____ some - times it caus - es me to

B *mf* (no break)
Oh, _____ some - times it caus - es me to

H *mf*

81

S trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

A trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

T trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

B trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

Red.

84 *p* , **I** *f*

S And then the sun, the

A And then the sun, the

T ₈ And then the sun, the

B *p* , *f*

And then the sun, the

p **I** *f*

8^{vb} *loco*

86

S sun, the sun

A sun, the sun

T ₈ sun, the sun

B sun, the sun

loco *loco*

88 *unis.* **With motion** ♩ = 112
p

S re - fused to shine.

A re - fused to shine.

T re - fused to shine.

B re - fused to shine.

unis. *p*

With motion ♩ = 112
lightly, as faint touches of sunlight

p

And. *poco ped.*

VERSE 4

92 **J** (Same tempo) ♩ = 112
(p) with sorrow and heaviness

S And then they laid him in the

A *(p) with sorrow and heaviness*
And then they laid him in the

J (Same tempo) ♩ = 112
(p)

And. *poco ped.*

95

S tomb. _____ And then they laid him in the

A tomb. _____ And then they laid him in the

T And then they laid him in the tomb. _____
(p) with sorrow and heaviness

B And then they laid him in the tomb. _____

sim.

Red. _____ *poco ped.* *Red.* _____ *poco ped.*

99

S tomb. _____

A tomb. _____

T And then they laid him in ... My Lord, my Lord,
cresc.

B And then they laid him in the tomb. My Lord, my Lord, _____
cresc.

sim.

Red. _____ *cresc.*

K

K

103

S *mf* ————— *f* (*f*)

my Lord, — my Lord. And then they laid him down.

A *mf* ————— *f* (*f*)

my Lord, — my Lord. And then they laid him down.

T *f*

my Lord, my Lord.

B *mf*

(*cresc.*) *f*

poco ped.

Red.

107

S

A

T *f*

And then they laid him in the tomb.

B *unis. f*

And then they laid him in the tomb.

L With motion

the spirit rising

dim. poco a poco to end

Red. *poco ped.* *with pedal*

111

S *p*
Hmm

A *p*
Hmm

T *p*
Hmm

B *p*
Hmm

(dim.)

115

S *rit. to end*

A *rit. to end*

T *rit. to end*

B *rit. to end*

(dim.)

rit. to end 8^{va}

rit. to end

rit. to end

118

(rit.)
(p)

S Ah, _____ were you _____ there?

A Ah, _____ were you _____ there?

T Ah, _____ were you _____ there?

B Ah, _____ were you _____ there?

(8^{va})

(dim.)

let ring

(Ped.)

4:30

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Originally for Soprano Solo and Piano and a part of the song set *Songs of the Spirit*, Catalog No. 8123.
A version for Women's Chorus (SSA) is also available, Catalog No. 8285.