

Text by
Eliza R. Snow

O My Father

Music by
Lynne Perry Christofferson

Thoughtfully ♩ = 74

8va both hands

mp *mf* *rit.* *mp*

The piano introduction is in 4/4 time. The right hand starts with a melody of eighth notes, marked *8va both hands*. The left hand plays a similar eighth-note pattern. The music is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano). After two measures, there is a dynamic shift to *mf* (mezzo-forte) and a *rit.* (ritardando) marking. The piece concludes with a final *mp* marking.

♩ = 70

women unis.

mp *mf*

O my Fa - ther, thou that dwell - est in the high and glo - rious place,

slow rubato

mp *mf*

The vocal line for women unison is in 4/4 time with a tempo of ♩ = 70. It begins with a *mp* (mezzo-piano) dynamic and moves to *mf* (mezzo-forte) for the second half of the line. The piano accompaniment is marked *slow rubato* and starts with *mp*, moving to *mf* for the second half. The piano part features a series of chords and moving lines in both hands.

5

mp

When shall I re - gain thy pre - sence and a - gain be - hold thy

8va ends

mp

The vocal line continues with a *mp* (mezzo-piano) dynamic. The piano accompaniment features a *8va ends* marking, indicating an octave shift. The piano part consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

9

♩ = 74

men unis.

mf

face? For a wise and glo - rious pur - pose

acc. *mf*

The vocal line for men unison is in 4/4 time with a tempo of ♩ = 74. It begins with a *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic. The piano accompaniment is marked *acc.* (accelerando) and starts with *mf*. The piano part features a series of chords and moving lines in both hands.

13

1

div.

f *mf*

thou has placed me here on earth and with - held the re - col - lec - tion

17

of my for - mer friends — and birth; — Yet oft -

21

times a se - cret some - thing whis - pered, "You're a strang - er here," — And I

mp *mf*

mp *mf*

25

unison

rit. *a tempo*
 felt that I had wan-dered from a more ex-alt-ed sphere. I had learned to
unison
rit. *a tempo*
unison
rit. *a tempo*

div. *unison*
 call thee Fa-ther, thru thy Spir-it from on high, but, un-til the key of know-ledge
f *mf*
div. *unison*
f *mf*

div.
 was re-stored I knew not why. In the heav'ns are par-ents
div.
 39

44

sin - gle? No, the thought makes rea - son stare! — Truth is rea - son; truth e - ter - nal tells me

49

rubato
mp

I've a moth - er there. — When I leave this frail ex - is - tence, when I lay this

8va both hands rubato *8va ends*

mp

54

ten. *tenderly*

mf

mor - tal by, — Fa - ther, Moth - er, may I — meet you in your roy - al courts — on

ten.

ten. *tenderly*

mf

high? _____ Then, at length, when I've com-ple-ted all you've sent me forth to

59

do, _____ with your mu-tual ap-pro-ba-tion let me come and dwell with you. _____ Let me _____

64

come _____ and dwell _____ with you. _____

69