

BARB'RY ALLEN

SSA Voices with Piano

British Folk Song
Arranged by Dan Davison

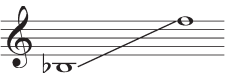
BriLee Music
Part-by-Part



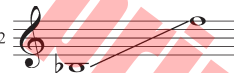
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Range:

Soprano 1



Soprano 2



Alto



Language: English
Use: General/Festival
Time: Approx. 2:39
*Difficulty: Moderate

Note from the Composer

The ballad of *Barb'ry Allen* comes from the British Isles and dates back as far as the mid-1600s. The tragic story tells of young William who was in love with a woman who did not share his feelings. It is not until William dies of a broken heart that Barb'ry Allen realizes her mistake, and, in turn, dies from remorse. They are buried next to each other, and each grave receives a plant. The mysterious part is how the rose on Barb'ry Allen's grave intertwines with the briar from William's grave, as if the two were somehow connected in death.

Those familiar with the tune of this folk song will notice an entirely new melody. In order to give the song a "Celtic" feel, the piece is set in the Mixolydian mode, and the new tune is harmonized with just two chords. In addition, the accompaniment is written so as to imitate a snare drum, again helping the tune to feel somewhat Scottish.

The part writing of the song has been crafted so as to include plenty of unison and two-part singing. Overall, this thinner texture will make the song more accessible to a wide variety of choirs. Moreover, the two-part sections tend to be populated with intervals of fourths and fifth, which again, help to give this song its Celtic flavor.

Understanding the "snare drum" qualities of the accompaniment is key to capturing the style of this song. Look at the right hand of the piano part in the third measure and imagine this rhythmic pattern being played by a snare drum, with a drum roll on beat three. You would hear two beats of staccato, with a more heavy, third beat. When the singers understand this percussive pattern, they can be taught to articulate the vocal lines in a similar manner.

About the Arranger

Dan Davison has been the Choir Director at Ballou Junior High in Puyallup, Washington since 1979. In addition to conducting the five ensembles at the school, he has numerous teaching and mentoring responsibilities, and sings professionally with Male Ensemble Northwest.

Dan was born in 1956 in Sacramento, California, but has lived in the greater Seattle area since 1965. Since 1979, he has lived in Puyallup, Washington with his wife, Cathy, who is also a public school teacher. He attended public schools in the Bellevue School District and then attended Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington where he received his Bachelor's degree, studying under Maurice Skones. He continued his education with a Master's In Music from Western Washington University, studying with Bruce Pullan.

Dan's tenure as Choir Director at Ballou Junior High School has acquainted him well with the complexities of the adolescent voice. Each year Dan directs a 7th Grade Boys Chorus, a 7th-Grade Girls Chorus, an 8th-Grade Mixed Choir, and a 9th-Grade Mixed Choir. In addition, Dan conducts a 16-voice Jazz Choir that is extra curricular. His Jazz Choir performed at the ACDA Northwest Convention in Seattle in 2010. Dan is experienced as a church choir director, and has also directed choirs at Western Washington University and Pacific Lutheran University. Dan also directed the Youth Choir (grades 7-9) for the 2014 ACDA Northwest Convention in Seattle.

Dan has received numerous awards for his role in music education, including the 1996 State Of Washington *Christa McAuliffe Educator of the Year*, *The Educator Citizen of the Year* for 2010 for Communities In Schools In Puyallup, Washington, and also the *Outstanding Choral Director Award* for 2010 from the Washington chapter of The American Choral Director's Association.

Barb'ry Allen

for SSA Voices with Piano

3

British Folk Song
Arranged by Dan Davison

♩ = 92

Soprano 1

Soprano 2

Alto

Piano

mf

In

mf

In

mf

In

♩ = 92

4

Scar - let town where I was born,

There was a fair maid

Scar - let town where I was born,

There was a fair maid

Scar - let town where I was born,

There was a fair maid

dwel-in' _____ Made ev' - ry lad cry _____

dwel-in' _____ Made ev' - ry lad cry _____

dwel-in' _____ Made ev' - ry lad cry _____

The piano accompaniment consists of two staves. The right hand plays a melody of eighth and quarter notes, while the left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

mp "Well a day!" And her name was Bar-b'ry Al-len.

mp "Well a day!" And her name was Bar-b'ry Al-len.

mp "Well a day!" And her name was Bar-b'ry Al-len.

The piano accompaniment continues with two staves. The right hand features a more active melody with eighth notes and chords, while the left hand maintains a steady harmonic base with chords and single notes. Dynamics include *mp* and *mf*.

14

A

mf

'Twas in the mer - ry month of May, The green buds

mf

'Twas in the mer - ry month of May, The green buds

mf

'Twas in the mer - ry month of May, The green buds

A

17

they were swell-in' _____ Sweet Will - iam on his

they _____ were swell-in' _____ Sweet Will - iam on his

they _____ were swell-in' _____ Sweet Will - iam on his

21

mp

death-bed lay, For the sake of Bar - b'ry Al - len.

mp

death-bed lay, For the sake of Bar - b'ry Al - len.

mp

death-bed lay, For the sake of Bar - b'ry Al - len.

mp

24

B

f

O Moth-er, Moth - er makemy bed, Come make it long

f

O Moth-er, Moth - er makemy bed, Come make it long

f

O Moth-er, Moth - er makemy bed, Come make it long

B

f

36

rit.

♩ = 74

Three vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor) and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts have the lyrics "him to - mor-row. ____". The piano accompaniment features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A large red watermark "Unlawful to copy or print" is diagonally across the page.

rit.

♩ = 74

p tenderly

Continue Pedal

40

C

Three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts have the lyrics "They bur - ied Bar - b'ry in the ground, And Will-iam close ____ be -". The piano accompaniment features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A large red watermark "Unlawful to copy or print" is diagonally across the page.

C

44

side her. _____ And from her grave grew ro³ - ses 'round, _____

side her. _____ And from her grave grew ro - ses 'round, _____

side her. _____ And from her grave grew ro - ses 'round, _____

48

rit. ♩ = 92

— And from his grave, green bri - ar. _____

— And from his grave, green bri - ar. _____

— And from his grave, green bri - ar. _____

rit. ♩ = 92

mf marcato

52

D *f*

They grew and grew so ver-y high, That they could grow no

They grew and grew so ver-y high, That they could grow no

They grew and grew so ver-y high, That they could grow no

D *f*

This block contains measures 52 through 55 of a musical score. It features three vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor) and a piano accompaniment in grand staff. The key signature has two flats. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is present. A chord symbol **D** is shown above the first vocal staff. The lyrics are: "They grew and grew so ver-y high, That they could grow no".

56

mf

high-er. And at the top a lov-er's knot,

mf

high-er. And at the top a lov-er's knot,

mf

high-er. And at the top a lov-er's knot,

mf

This block contains measures 56 through 59 of the musical score. It continues with the three vocal staves and piano accompaniment. The dynamic marking is *mf* (mezzo-forte). The lyrics are: "high-er. And at the top a lov-er's knot,". The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and block chords in the left hand.

60

mp **Slower** *rit.* *a tempo*

— The red rose and the bri-ar. —

mp

— The red rose and the bri-ar. —

mp

— The red rose and the Scar - let town where I was

Slower *rit.* *a tempo*

mp legato

marcato

Use pedal

64

Come make it long and

Will - iam on his death bed for the sake,

born, ——— Scar - let town where I was

p

p

67

nar - row. _____ Come make it _____

p Will - iam on his _____ death bed for the sake of

born, _____ Scar - let town where I was

70

long, Barb-'ry Al - len. _____

pp Barb-, Barb-'ry Al - len. _____

pp born, Barb-'ry Al - len. _____

rit.

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