

Commissioned by the MacDowell Male Chorus of Appleton, Wisconsin  
in commemoration of their 85th anniversary, Herb Berendsen, conductor

# O Love

For TTBB\* Choir, Piano and optional Cello \*\*

George Matheson (1842-1906)

ELAINE HAGENBERG

**Espressivo** ♩ = ca. 76-80  
*molto legato*

Cello

*mp*

Piano

*p*

(Do not play pickup note when using cello)

l.h. l.h.

*rubato*

*rit.*

gently  
TB unis. *p* a tempo

O Love, O Love, O Love, that

*p*

\* Also available for SATB (BP2097) and SSAA (BP2170) choir.

\*\* A separate Cello part (BP2097A) is available for purchase.

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BP2171-2

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C.

will not let me go, O Love, I

12 13 14

C.

*p*

T.  
rest my wea - ry soul in Thee; I give thee back the

B.  
rest my wea - ry soul in Thee; I give thee back the

l.h.

15 16 17

life I owe, that in thy o - cean depths its flow

life I owe, in thy o - cean depths its flow may

*l.h.*

18 19 20

*p* *mp*

rich - er, ful - ler be. O

*mp*

21 22 23 24

Musical score for measures 25-27. The score includes a bass line, a vocal line, and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The vocal line features lyrics: "Joy, O Joy, O Joy, that". The piano accompaniment is marked *mp*. Measure numbers 25, 26, and 27 are indicated at the bottom of the piano part.

Musical score for measures 28-30. The score includes a bass line, a vocal line, and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The vocal line features lyrics: "seeks me through the pain, Joy, O Joy, I". The piano accompaniment is marked *mp*. Measure numbers 28, 29, and 30 are indicated at the bottom of the piano part.

can - not close my heart to thee; I trace the rain - bow

can - not close my heart to thee; trace the rain - bow

*unis.*

*div.*

*l.h.*

31 32 33

Detailed description: This system contains measures 31, 32, and 33. It features a vocal line with two parts (Soprano and Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in unison until measure 32, where they diverge. The piano accompaniment includes a left-hand part labeled 'l.h.'. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C).

through the rain, and feel the pro - mise is not vain

through the rain, and feel the pro - mise is not vain that

*unis.*

*p*

*l.h.*

*unis.*

*p*

34 35 36

Detailed description: This system contains measures 34, 35, and 36. It features a vocal line with two parts (Soprano and Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in unison until measure 35, where they diverge. The piano accompaniment includes a left-hand part labeled 'l.h.'. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C).

Musical score for measures 37-39. The score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with a rest in measure 37, then enters in measure 38 with the lyrics "morn shall tear - less be". In measure 39, the vocal line continues with "that morn shall tear - less". The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines in both hands. The dynamic marking *mp* (mezzo-piano) is present in measures 38 and 39.

Musical score for measures 40-42. The score continues in G major and 4/4 time. The vocal line has a long note in measure 40 with the lyric "be." and a phrase in measure 41 with the lyrics "morn shall tear - less be.". In measure 42, the vocal line has a long note with the lyric "O". The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines. The dynamic marking *mp* is present in measure 40, and *rit.* (ritardando) is indicated in measures 41 and 42.

*a tempo*  
*f*

*mf a tempo*  
Love, O Love, that

*a tempo*  
Love, O Love, that

*mf*

*f a tempo*

43 44 45

will not let me go, I

will not let me go, O Love, I

*subito P*

*subito P*

*p*

46 47 48

rit. a tempo p

rest my wea - ry soul in thee;

rit. a tempo p

rest my wea - ry soul in thee;

Baritones I give thee back the

rit. unis. p

rest my wea - ry soul in thee;

8

rit. a tempo p

49 50 51

*l.h.*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 49, 50, and 51. It features four staves: a bass staff at the top, a vocal staff, a bass staff for Baritone I, and a grand staff for piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure 49 starts with a 'rit.' marking. Measure 50 has a 'unis.' marking. Measure 51 has an 'a tempo' marking and a piano 'p' dynamic. The piano accompaniment includes a left-hand part with a 'p' dynamic and a right-hand part with an 'l.h.' marking. Measure numbers 49, 50, and 51 are indicated at the bottom of the piano staves.

unis. p

life I owe, I give thee back the life I owe,

life I owe, I give thee back the life I owe, I

add Baritones mp

l.h.

52 53 54

Detailed description: This system contains measures 52, 53, and 54. It features four staves: a bass staff, a vocal staff, a bass staff for Baritone I, and a grand staff for piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure 52 has a 'unis.' marking and a piano 'p' dynamic. Measure 53 has a 'p' dynamic. Measure 54 has an 'mp' dynamic and a marking 'add Baritones mp'. The piano accompaniment includes a left-hand part with an 'l.h.' marking. Measure numbers 52, 53, and 54 are indicated at the bottom of the piano staves.



55 56 57

*mp* *mp* *rit.* *rit.* *rit.*

give thee back the life I owe and in thy o - cean

give thee back the life I owe and in thy o - cean

*L.h.* *L.h.* *rit.* *f*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 55, 56, and 57. It features a vocal line in treble clef and a bass line in bass clef, both in a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The vocal line includes lyrics: "give thee back the life I owe and in thy o - cean". The piano accompaniment includes a left hand (L.h.) and a right hand. Dynamics include *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *f* (forte). Performance markings include *rit.* (ritardando) and *L.h.* (left hand). Measure numbers 55, 56, and 57 are indicated at the bottom of the piano part.

58 59 60 61

*f* *f* *mp* *lightly* *p*

depths its flow that

depths its flow shall rich - er, ful - ler be.

*8va* *p*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 58, 59, 60, and 61. It features a vocal line in treble clef and a bass line in bass clef, both in a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The vocal line includes lyrics: "depths its flow that" and "depths its flow shall rich - er, ful - ler be.". The piano accompaniment includes a left hand (L.h.) and a right hand. Dynamics include *f* (forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano), and *p* (piano). Performance markings include *lightly* and *8va* (octave up). Tempo markings include  $\text{♩} = 60$  and  $\text{♩} = 78$ . Measure numbers 58, 59, 60, and 61 are indicated at the bottom of the piano part.

The musical score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system (measures 62-65) features a vocal line starting with a piano (*p*) dynamic and a *unis.* (unison) instruction. The lyrics are "morn shall tear - less be." followed by a long note. The piano accompaniment includes measures 62, 63, 64, and 65. The second system (measures 66-69) features a vocal line with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and a *unis.* instruction. The lyrics are "O Love, O Love, O Love, O". The piano accompaniment includes measures 66, 67, 68, and 69.



Love, O Love, will not let me go

Love, O Love, will not let me go

70 71 72 73

*p*

*rit.* Love, that will not let me go.

*rit.* O let me go.

*rit.* Love, that will not let me go.

*rit.* *pp*

74 75 76 77 78<sub>8vb</sub>