

for the Sisters of the Good Shephard,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

ISSAY, ISSAY!

(Hear Ye, Hear Ye!)

for 2-part/S.S.A. voices and piano
with optional SoundTrax CD*

Arranged by
PHILIP KERN (ASCAP)

Based on a traditional
Ethiopian Christmas song
with English words by
PHILIP KERN (ASCAP)

Brightly (♩ = ca. 84-92)

PIANO

PART I (SOPRANO)

mp

Up in Beth - le-hem _____ on this ho - ly morn, _____

PART II (ALTO)

mp

Up in Beth - le-hem _____ on this ho - ly morn, _____

9

up in Beth - le-hem _____ babe is born. _____

up in Beth - le-hem _____ babe is born. _____

* Also available for S.A.T.B., Level Four (19217) and S.A.B., Level Three (19218).
SoundTrax CD available (19220).

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13

mp

cresc.

An - gels in the air

sing - ing ev - 'ry-where and they

mp

cresc.

An - gels in the air

sing - ing ev - 'ry-where and they

mp

cresc.

17

sing, "Hal - le - lu - jah!" They sing,

sing, "Hal - le - lu - jah!" They sing,

21

f

"Is - say, is - say!*" Gay - tah - teh - weh - leh - deh.

"Is - say, Is - say!*" Gay - tah - teh - weh - leh - deh.

f

* See note on p. 12.

25

Is - say, — Is - say! Med - hehn_ teh - weh - leh - deh.

Is - say, — Is - say! Med - hehn_ teh - weh - leh - deh.

29

Hear ye! — O, hear — ye! Je - su* has

Hear ye! — O, hear — ye! e - su* has

32

come to - day! Is - say, — Is - say!

come to - day! Is - say, — Is - say!

* pronounced "Yeh - soo"

35

Gay - tah - teh - weh - leh - deh!"

Gay - tah - teh - weh - leh - deh!"

decresc.

This system contains measures 35 through 38. It features two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "Gay - tah - teh - weh - leh - deh!". The piano part includes a decrescendo marking.

39

41

mf

Kings from far - a-way

mf

This system contains measures 39 through 41. Measure 39 is a whole rest for the vocal line. Measure 40 begins with the vocal line and the piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "Kings from far - a-way". The piano part includes a mezzo-forte (*mf*) marking.

42

come to see - the boy.

This system contains measures 42 through 45. Measure 42 is a whole rest for the vocal line. Measure 43 begins with the vocal line and the piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "come to see - the boy.". The piano part continues with its accompaniment.

45 *mf*

f

Kings from far — a-way —

shout for joy! —

49

mf

mel. cresc.

Peo - ple join — the kings, —

ev - 'ry-bod - y sings, —

mf

cresc.

Peo - ple join — the kings, —

ev - 'ry-bod - y sings, —

mf

cresc.

52

— and they sing, "Hal - le - lu - jah!"

— and they sing, "Hal - le - lu - jah!"

56 57 *f*

They sing "Is - say, — Is - say! Gay - tah — teh -

They sing "Is - say, — Is - say! Gay - tah — teh -

60

weh - leh - deh! Is - say, — Is - say! Med - hehn — teh -

weh - leh - deh! Is - say, — Is - say! Med - hehn — teh -

64 65

weh - leh - deh! Hear ye! — O, hear — ye! Je - su — has

weh - leh - deh! Hear ye! — O, hear — ye! Je - su — has

68

come to - day! Is - say, Is - say!

come to - day! Is - say, Is - say!

71

Gay - tah_ teh - weh - leh - deh!"

Gay - tah_ teh - weh - leh - deh!"

75

mp Oo, Hear the an - gels sing.

mp Oo, Hear the an - gels sing.



79

Oo, _____ Shep-herds' voic - es ring. Hal - le-lu - jah!

Oo, _____ Shep-herds' voic - es ring.

83 *cresc. poco a poco*

cresc. poco a poco
Ev - 'ry-bod - y sing. Is - say! Is - say! Sing - ing to _____ the King!

cresc. poco a poco
Ev - 'ry-bod - y sing. Sing - ing to _____ the King!

86

mf cresc.
Hal - le-lu - jah! Hal - le-lu - jah! Hal - le-lu - jah! Hal - le-lu - jah!

mf cresc.
Hal - le-lu - jah! Hal - le-lu - jah! Hal - le-lu - jah!

90 92

Hal-le - lu - jah! Is - say, — Is - say!

Hal-le - lu - jah! Is - say, — Is - say!

94

Gay - tah — teh - weh - leh - deh. Is - say, — Is - say!

Gay - tah — teh - weh - leh - deh. Is - say, — Is - say!

98 100

Med - hehn — teh - weh - leh - deh. Hear ye! — O, hear — ye!

Med - hehn — teh - weh - leh - deh. Hear ye! — O, hear — ye!

102

Je - su — has come to - day! Is - say, —

Je - su — has come to - day! Is - say, —

105

108

Is - say! Gay - tah — teh - weh - leh - deh! Is - say! —

Is - say! Gay - tah — teh - weh - leh - deh! Is - say! —

109

— Hal - le - lu - jah! Is - say! — Hal - le - lu - jah!

— Hal - le - lu - jah! Is - say! — Hal - le - lu - jah!

112 *cresc.*

Is - say! _____ Hal - le-lu -

cresc.

Is - say! _____ Hal - le-lu -

116 *ff*

jah! _____

ff

jah! _____

Issay, Issay! (pronounced "Ih-say, Ih-say," and meaning "Hear ye, Hear ye!") is based on an Ethiopian Christmas song.

"Gay-tah teh-weh-leh-deh" and "Med-hehn teh-weh-leh-deh" are phonetic pronunciations of Amharic phrases meaning "The Lord is born" and "The Savior is born." Amharic is spoken by millions of northern Africans and is the official language of Ethiopia.

