

Many thanks to Ms. Peggy Kim Burrough and the Aylen JH Choraliars
for helping bring this work to light.

For the 1996 Georgia All-State Junior High Mixed Chorus

PRAYER OF THE CHILDREN

SATB, a cappella

Words and Music
by KURT BESTOR
Arranged by
ANDREA SKLOUSE

Performance time: 5:15

Freely, with much feeling (♩ = ca. 52)

The musical score is written for SATB voices and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of D major and 4/4 time. The score includes the following lyrics and performance markings:

S
A
Can you hear the pray'r of the chil - dren on bend ed
T
B
unis. mp

knee, in the shad-ow of an un - known room? Emp - ty
p

Eyes with no more
eyes with no more tears to cry, turn - ing
cresc.

heav - en - ward toward the light. Cry - in' *Je - sus
mf

With intensity
mf

*Alternate text: Who will

9 *f*

help me — to see the morn-in' light — of one more day, but if

f *unis.*

I should die be-fore I wake, I pray my soul to take. Can you

mp *mf*

13

feel — the hearts of the chil - dren — ach - ing for

mf

home, — for some-thing of their ver - y — own? Reach - ing —

unis.

17

hands — with noth-ing to hold on to, — but hope for a

mf

With intensity

bet - ter day, a bet - ter day. Cry - in' *Je - sus

21 *f* help me to feel the love a - gain in my own land, but if

Slowly *dim. e rit.* un-known roads lead a - way from home, give me lov - ing arms, 'way from harm.

26 ****Briskly, with growing intensity** *mf* Woh, lah dah dah dohm, lah dah lah dah dohm, Ooh

* Alternate text: Who will

** Utilize energetic intensity to achieve briskness, waiting until meas. 29 to increase tempo.

*** close to *mmm* sound on *dohm* each time.

Slightly faster ♩ = 80 *ff* *sop. div.* *dim. e rit.* **Tempo I** *unis. mp*

Woh, _ doh _ doh _ dah _ dah dah doh. _ Can you _

33 *ten.* *hushed* *p*

hear _ the voice of the chil - dren _ soft - ly

ff *sfz* *unis.*

plead - ing _ for si - lence in their shat - tered world? An - gry _

37 **Resolute** *ff* *cresc.* **Warmer, smoothly** *unis.*

guns _ preach a gos - pel full of _ hate, _ blood of the in - no - cent _ on their _

