

SIMPLE GIFTS

SSA, accompanied, with optional flute*

Performance time: approx. 3:30

Traditional Shaker Melody
Arranged by RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM (ASCAP)

Gently (♩ = ca. 85)

FLUTE

mp

Gently (♩ = ca. 85)

ACCOMP.

mp

G G/F# Em G/D Am7/C G(9)/B** G/B

Am D 5 G G(9)/F# Em G/D Am7/C D6

SSA

(unis.) mp 10

'Tis a gift to be simple, 'tis a

mp

'Tis a gift to be simple, 'tis a

Eb F(9) D/F# 10 G G/F#

*Flute: See p. 14.

** (9) = add the 9th but no 7th.

gift to be free, 'tis a gift to come down where we ought to be. And

gift to be free, 'tis a gift to come down where we ought to be. And

Em7 G/D Am7/C G(9)/B G/B Am D7 *mp*

This system contains the first two vocal staves and the piano accompaniment. The vocal lines are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The piano accompaniment is in treble and bass clefs. The lyrics are: "gift to be free, 'tis a gift to come down where we ought to be. And". The piano part includes the following chords: Em7, G/D, Am7/C, G(9)/B, G/B, Am, and D7. A dynamic marking of *mp* is present at the end of the piano part.

14 *poco cresc.*

when we find our selves in the place just right, it will be in the val - ley of

poco cresc.

when we find our-selves in the place just right, it will be in the val - ley of

poco cresc.

14 G G(9)/F# Em Gmaj7/D Am/C D6 D(9)

This system contains the second two vocal staves and the piano accompaniment. The vocal lines are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The piano accompaniment is in treble and bass clefs. The lyrics are: "when we find our selves in the place just right, it will be in the val - ley of". The piano part includes the following chords: G, G(9)/F#, Em, Gmaj7/D, Am/C, D6, and D(9). A dynamic marking of *poco cresc.* is present at the beginning and middle of the piano part.

18 *mf*

love and de-light. When true sim-plic-i-ty is gained, to

love and de-light. When true sim-plic-i-ty is gained, to

mf

E \flat F(9) G G/F \sharp Em G/D

18 *mf*



22

turn, turn will

bow and to bend we shall not be a-shamed. To turn, turn, turn will

bow and to bend we shall not be a-shamed. To turn, turn, turn will

Cmaj7 G/B Am D7 22 G G/F \sharp



(unis.)

be our de-light, till by turn - ing, turn - ing we come 'round

be our de-light, till by turn - ing, turn - ing we come 'round

Em Bm/D Bm6/D Am D6 D7 Eb F⁶

26

right.

right.

26 G G/F# Em7 G/D Am7/C G(9)/B G/B

mp

mp

mp 30

'Tis a gift to be sim - ple.

mp

'Tis a gift to be sim - ple.

Am D 30 G G/F# Em G/D



'Tis a

'Tis a

Am7/C D D Eb F(9) F D/F#



35

gift to be sim-ple, 'tis a gift to be free, 'tis a gift to come down

gift to be sim-ple, 'tis a gift to be free, 'tis a gift to come down

35 G G/F# Em7 Gmaj7/D Am7/C G(9)/B G/B

(unis.) 39 *poco cresc.*

where we ought to be. And when we find our-selves in the place just right, it will

poco cresc.

where we ought to be. And when we find our-selves, it will

mp poco cresc.

Am D7 39 G Bm/F# Bm7/F# Em G/D

poco cresc.

43 *mf*

be in the val - ley of love and de-light. When

mf

be in the val - ley of love and de-light. When true sim -

mf

Am/C D6 D7 Eb F(9) G G/F#

43 *mf*

true sim - plic - i - ty is gained, to bend we shall not be a-shamed.

plic - i - ty is gained, to bow and to bend we shall not be a-shamed. To

Em G/D Cmaj7 G/B Am D7

47

To turn will be our de-light, till by turn - ing, turn - ing we
turn_____ will be our de-light, till by turn - ing, turn - ing we

47 G G/F# Em Gmaj7/D Am/C D6 D7

51

come 'round right. When true sim - plic - i - ty is gained, to
come 'round right. When true sim - plic - i - ty is gained, to

51 Eb F G G/F# Em G/D

55

mf turn,

bow and to bend we shall not be a-shamed. To turn, turn, turn will

mf

bow and to bend we shall not be a-shamed. To turn, turn, turn will

mf

Cmaj7 G/B Am D7 55 G G/F#

be our de-light, till by turn - ing, turn - ing we come 'round

be our de-light, till by turn - ing, turn - ing we come 'round

Em Bm/D Bm6/D Am D6 D7 Eb F6

59

right. *mp* 'Tis a gift to be free.

right. *mp* 'Tis a gift to be sim - ple.

59 G G/F# Em7 G/D C(9) G(9)/B

mp

rit. e dim. al fine (unis.) 63

'Tis a gift to be sim - ple.

'Tis a gift to be sim - ple.

rit. e dim. al fine

Am(4) Am D 63 G G(9)/F# Em G/D

rit. e dim. al fine

66

'Tis a

'Tis a

C6 D6 D Ebmaj7

66

gift to be free.

gift to be free.

F(9) G

8va...

8va...

Flute

Gently ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 85$)

The musical score is written on ten staves of five-line systems. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked 'Gently' with a quarter note equal to approximately 85 beats per minute. The first staff starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The music consists of a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together, with various phrasing slurs. Measure numbers 5, 10, 14, 18, 22, 26, and 30 are indicated in small boxes. The dynamic changes to mezzo-forte (*mf*) at measure 18. A 'poco cresc.' (poco crescendo) marking is present at measure 14. A fermata is placed over a note in measure 22. The score concludes with a double bar line at the end of the tenth staff.

35

3

39

mp poco cresc.

43

mf

47

51

f

55

mf

59

mp

rit. e dim. al fine

63

66

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