

Hope Is the Song

SATB and piano with optional bass and handheld percussion

Gordon Parks (1912–2006)

Lee R. Kesselman

Andante ♩ = ca. 80

p

with pedal

5 SA *p*

De-spite the tur-moil, an-guish and de-spair— dis-rupt-ing the plan-et we in-

8 *mf*

her-it-ed,— there is some-thing good I choose to

mf

(+bass)

10

sing a-bout.— There is some-thing good I choose to

Duration: 6:00

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4
12 SA

TB sing a - bout. *mp*

That some-thing lies with-in us, *p*

(- bass)

mp a - bove us and a-round us. Its *mf*

pa-tient-ly wait - ing be-neath us, and a-round us. *mf*

(8va)

(+bass)

peace - ful mes - sage yearns to fill our plac - es of mur-der-ous an-ger and

mf

21 *mp*

ha-tred, to flour-ish for - ev-er.

mp

24

mf *cresc.* *ff*

27 *rit.* Adagio ♩ = ca. 50

rit. Adagio ♩ = ca. 50

dim. e rit. *p*

31 The bell tolls at midnight ...

p to be sung by individuals (see performance notes)

Hope, hope, hope, hope,

The bell tolls at midnight ...

pp *l.h.* (- bass)

35

tutti sop.

hope, hope, hope, hope, hope, hope, hope, hope—

Flowingly, anthem-like ♩ = ca. 96

39

mf

Hope is— the song I have— cho-sen to sing.

Flowingly, anthem-like ♩ = ca. 96

mp (+bass)

42

Hope is the song I have cho-sen to

This system contains measures 42, 43, and 44. It features a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). Measure 42 starts with a whole note chord in the bass and a half note in the treble. Measures 43 and 44 continue the vocal melody and piano accompaniment.

45

sing, a death - less song, flow-ing

This system contains measures 45, 46, and 47. Measure 45 begins with a long note in the bass and a half note in the treble. Measures 46 and 47 show the vocal line continuing with a triplet in measure 47. The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines in both staves.

48

stead - i - ly be-side my faith. When -

This system contains measures 48, 49, and 50. Measure 48 starts with a triplet in the treble and a long note in the bass. Measures 49 and 50 continue the vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The piano accompaniment includes chords and moving lines in both staves.

51 *cresc.*

ev - er the fist of doubt knocks at my door, it is *cresc.*

54 *f*

pow'r-ful - ly turned a - way by my hope - ful - sing -

57

ing. When things go from bad - to worse I still sing my