

David Slater

# Elegies

from the Book of Lamentations

SSATB Choir  
and String Orchestra

## from the Book of Lamentations

1:16

This is why I weep  
and my eyes overflow with tears.  
No one is near to comfort me,  
no one to restore my spirit.

.

2:11

My eyes fail from weeping,  
I am in torment within;  
my heart is poured out on the ground  
because my people are destroyed,

3:19-20

I remember my affliction and my wandering,  
the bitterness and the gall.  
I well remember them,  
and my soul is downcast within me.

3:21-22, 31-32

Yet this I call to mind  
and therefore I have hope:

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed,  
For no one is cast off by the Lord forever.  
Though he brings grief, he will show compassion,  
so great is his unfailing love.

# Elegies

for Dearne, Scott and family

From the Book of Lamentations

David Slater

Lamentoso (♩ = 64)

Vocal staves for Soprano I, Soprano II, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. The time signature is 3/4. Each staff contains a whole rest in every measure, indicating that the vocalists are silent during this section.

Lamentoso (♩ = 64)

Instrumental staves for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The time signature is 3/4. The music is marked *con sord.* (with mutes).  
Violin I and Violin II: *mp* (mezzo-piano) in the first measure, *p* (piano) in the second measure, then a long note in the third measure.  
Viola: *f* (forte) in the first measure, *p* (piano) in the second measure, then a long note in the third measure.  
Violoncello: *f* (forte) in the first measure, *p* (piano) in the second measure, then a long note in the third measure.  
Double Bass: *f* (forte) in the first measure, *p* (piano) in the second measure, then a long note in the third measure.  
The fourth measure of each staff shows a dynamic shift to *mf* (mezzo-forte) with a long note.

7

A system of six empty musical staves, each with a treble clef. The staves are arranged in two groups of three. The first staff in each group has a '7' above it. The staves are empty, with only a few small horizontal lines indicating the staff boundaries.

A musical score for measures 7-12. The score consists of five staves. The first two staves are in treble clef, and the last three are in bass clef. The first staff has a '7' above it. The music is in 3/4 time. The first two staves have a melody starting with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The third staff has a bass line starting with a half note G3, followed by quarter notes A3, B3, and C4. The fourth and fifth staves have a bass line starting with a half note G2, followed by quarter notes A2, B2, and C3. The score includes dynamic markings: *mf* and *p*. The first staff has *mf* under the first measure and *p* under the second measure. The second staff has *mf* under the first measure and *p* under the fifth measure. The third staff has *p* under the second measure. The fourth staff has *p* under the second measure. The fifth staff has *p* under the second measure. The score includes slurs, ties, and a fermata in the first staff.

13

This section contains six empty musical staves, each with a treble clef. The staves are arranged in two groups of three. Each staff has a horizontal line indicating a whole rest for the entire duration of the six measures.

This section contains six measures of musical notation across five staves. The first two staves are in treble clef, and the last three are in bass clef. The notation includes notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

- Measure 13:** Treble clef staves have whole rests. Bass clef staves have a half note G2.
- Measure 14:** Treble clef staves have whole rests. Bass clef staves have a half note G2.
- Measure 15:** Treble clef staves have a half note G4, followed by eighth notes A4, B4, and C5. Bass clef staves have a half note G2.
- Measure 16:** Treble clef staves have a half note G4. Bass clef staves have a half note G2.
- Measure 17:** Treble clef staves have a half note G4. Bass clef staves have a half note G2.
- Measure 18:** Treble clef staves have a half note G4. Bass clef staves have a half note G2.

**A**

19

*pp* This - - is why I weep

*pp* This - - is why I weep

*pp* This - - is why I weep

**A**

*p*

*p*

25

*f* This is why I weep. *p* And my eyes ov - er -

*f* This is why I weep. *p* And my eyes ov - er -

*f* This is why I weep. *p* And my eyes ov - er -

*f* This is why I weep. *p* And my

*f* This is why I weep. *p* And my

*f* *mf* *p* *div.*

*f* *mf* *pizz.* *p*

*f* *p* *pizz.* *p*

*f* *p* *pizz.* *p*

*f* *p*

31

flow \_\_\_\_\_ ov - er - - - - flow with tears.  
flow ov - er - flow ov - - er - - flow with tears.  
flow \_\_\_\_\_ ov - er - - - - flow with tears.  
8 eyes ov - er flow \_\_\_\_\_ ov - - er - - flow with tears.  
eyes ov - er - flow \_\_\_\_\_ ov - ver - flow with tears.

*arco*  
*arco*  
*arco*

**B**

36 *pp*

This is why I weep\_\_\_\_\_

*pp* *p*

This is why I weep\_\_\_\_\_ No-one is near to com - fort me

*pp*

This is why I weep\_\_\_\_\_

*pp*

This - - - is why I weep\_\_\_\_\_

*pp*

This - - - is why I weep\_\_\_\_\_

**B**

*pizz.* *p*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

43

*p* No-one is near to com - fort me This is why I weep

*pp* This is why I weep This is why I weep

*pp* This is why I weep, No-one is there to com - fort me

*p* No-one is there to com - fort me

No-one is near to com - fort me

*pizz.*  
*p*

*pizz.*  
*p*

*div.*

*pp*

*pizz.*  
*p*

*arco*  
*pp*

C

49 *f*

No - one to re store my spi - rit

No - one to re store my spi - rit

No - one to re store my spi - rit

No - one to re store my spi - rit

No - one to re store my spi - rit

Detailed description: This block contains the vocal staves for five voices: Soprano, Alto, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, and Bass. Each staff begins with a dynamic marking of *f* (forte). The lyrics are "No - one to re store my spi - rit". The music is written in a key with two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The piece concludes with a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are spread across five lines, with the first line starting at measure 49. The vocal lines are written in treble clef, while the bass line is in bass clef.

C

*arco* *f*

*arco* *f*

*arco* *f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

Detailed description: This block contains the instrumental staves for five instruments: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. The Violin I and Violin II parts are marked *arco* and *f*. The Viola, Cello, and Double Bass parts are marked *f*. The music is written in a key with two flats and a 4/4 time signature. The piece concludes with a 3/4 time signature. The dynamic marking *p* (piano) is indicated at the end of each instrumental line. The instrumental staves are written in treble clef for Violin I and Violin II, and in bass clef for Viola, Cello, and Double Bass.

55

A musical score for measures 55 through 62. The score consists of five staves: four treble clefs and one bass clef. All staves are empty, with only a small horizontal line (a fermata) present on each staff in every measure, indicating that the music is silent or that the notes are not visible.

A musical score for measures 63 through 70. The score consists of five staves: four treble clefs and one bass clef. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, beams, and dynamic markings. A piano (*p*) marking is present in the first measure of the first two staves. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together, and includes slurs and accents. The bass clef staff shows a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

**D**

64 *pp* *f*

My eyes fail from weep - ing My eyes fail from weep -

*pp* *f*

My eyes fail from weep - ing My eyes fail from weep -

*pp* *f*

My eyes fail from weep - ing My eyes fail from weep -

*f*

My eyes fail from weep -

*f*

My eyes fail from weep -

**D**

*p* *f*

*p* *f*

*f*

*f*

70

ing I'm in tor - ment with in tor - ment

ing I'm in tor - ment with in tor - ment tor -

ing I'm in tor - ment with in tor - ment

ing I'm in tor - ment with in tor -

ing I'm in tor - ment with in

*mf* *p* *div.*

*mf* *p* *div.*

*mf* *pizz.* *p*

*pizz.* *p*

*pizz.* *p*

*f* *p* *p*

**E**

76

with - in; My eyes fail from weep - - ing

- ment with - in; My eyes fail from weep - - ing

with - - in; My eyes fail from weep - - ing

- ment with - in;

tor - - ment with - in;

**E**

tor - - ment with - in;

83

my heart is poured out on the  
my heart is poured out on the ground  
my eyes fail from  
my eyes fail  
My eyes fail from weep - ing  
my

*p*  
*pp*  
*pp*  
*pp*  
*p*

*pizz.*  
*p*  
*pp*  
*pizz.*  
*p*

88

ground my eyes fail from weep - ing be -  
weep - ing my eyes fail from weep - ing be -  
my heart is poured out on the ground be -  
heart is poured out on the ground be -  
out on the ground be -

*pp* *f* *pp* *f* *p* *f* *f* *f* *f*

senza sord. arco *f*  
senza sord. arco *f*  
div. senza sord. *pp* *f*  
senza sord. arco *pp* *f*  
senza sord. *f*

**F**

Poco accel.

Poco più mosso (♩ = 72)

93

cause my peo - ple are des - troyed

cause my peo - ple are des - troyed

cause my peo - ple are des - troyed

cause my peo - ple are des - troyed

cause my peo - ple are des - troyed

**F**

Poco accel.

Poco più mosso (♩ = 72)

*p*

*p*

*p*

*pizz.*

*p*

98

*p* I re - mem - ber my aff - lict - ion and my wand' ring *mf* the

*p* I re - mem - ber my aff - lict - ion and my wand' ring *mf* the

*p* I re - mem - ber my aff - lict - ion and my wand' ring *mf* the

*p* I re - mem - ber my aff - lict - ion and my wand' ring *mf* the

*p* I re - mem - ber my aff - lict - ion and my wand' ring *mf* the

*pizz.*  
*p*

*p*

103

bit-ter-ness and the gall. I re-mem-ber them well I re-

bit-ter-ness and the gall I re-mem-ber them well I re-

bit-ter-ness and the gall I re-mem-ber them well I re-

bit-ter-ness and the gall I re-mem-ber them well I re-

bit-ter-ness and the gall I re-mem-ber them well I re-

*p* *mf* *mf*

*mf* *mf* *mf* *arco* *mf* *mf*

poco rit.      Tempo I (♩ = 64)

108

mem - ber them well and my soul is down - cast with - in me

mem - ber Them well and my soul is down - cast with - in me

mem - ber them well and my soul is down - cast with - in me

mem - ber them well and my soul is down - cast with - in me

mem - ber them well and my soul is down - cast with - in me

*f* *sempre dim.*

poco rit.      Tempo I (♩ = 64)

*mf* *f* *sempre dim.*

*f* *sempre dim.*

*f* *sempre dim.*

*f* *sempre dim.*

*arco* *f* *sempre dim.*

**G**

Poco più mosso

113 *p*

This block contains five staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a time signature of 3/4. It starts with a half note G4, followed by rests for the remainder of the measure. The next four staves (alto, tenor, bass, and double bass) also begin with a half note G4 and have rests for the rest of the measure. The dynamic marking *p* is placed above the first staff. Measures 114 through 118 are empty staves.

**G**

Poco più mosso

This block contains five staves of music. The first staff has a treble clef, one flat, and 3/4 time. It features a melodic line of half notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, and a quarter note G#4. The dynamic marking *pp* is placed below the first two notes. The second staff has a treble clef, one flat, and 3/4 time, with a similar melodic line: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, and a quarter note G#4. The dynamic marking *pp* is placed below the first two notes. The third staff has a bass clef, one flat, and 3/4 time, with a bass line of quarter notes: G3, A3, Bb3, C4, Bb3, A3, G3, and a quarter note G#3. The dynamic marking *pp* is placed below the first two notes. The fourth staff has a bass clef, one flat, and 3/4 time, with a bass line of quarter notes: G3, A3, Bb3, C4, Bb3, A3, G3, and a quarter note G#3. The dynamic marking *pp* is placed below the first two notes. The fifth staff has a bass clef, one flat, and 3/4 time, with a bass line of half notes: G3, A3, Bb3, C4, Bb3, A3, G3, and a half note G#3. The dynamic marking *pp* is placed below the first two notes.

Andante (♩ = 80)

121

*pp* *sempre cresc.* *f espress.*

Yet this I call to mind and there - fore I have hope: Be -

*pp* *sempre cresc.* *f espress.*

Yet this I call to mind and there - fore I have hope: Be -

*pp* *sempre cresc.* *f espress.*

Yet this I call to mind and there - fore I have hope: Be -

*pp* *sempre cresc.* *f espress.*

Yet this I call to mind and there - fore I have hope: Be -

*pp* *sempre cresc.* *f espress.*

Yet this I call to mind and there - fore I have hope: Be -

Andante (♩ = 80)

*sempre cresc.* *f*

H

126

cause of the Lord's great love we are not consumed For

cause of the Lord's great love we are not consumed For

cause of the Lord's great love we are not consumed For

cause of the Lord's great love we are not consumed

cause of the Lord's great love we are not consumed

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

H

*pizz.*

*f*

*f*

131

no - one is cast off by the Lord for - ev - er

no - one is cast off by the Lord for - ev - er

no - one is cast off by the Lord for - ev - er

This section contains three vocal staves in treble clef, each with the lyrics "no - one is cast off by the Lord for - ev - er". The music is in a key with three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. The first staff has a melodic line with a long note on "off" and a slur over "by the Lord". The second and third staves follow a similar pattern. Below the vocal staves are two empty staves, likely for piano accompaniment.

*mf*

*mf*

This section contains piano accompaniment for the same piece. It features two treble clef staves and two bass clef staves. The first two staves are empty. The third and fourth staves contain a simple accompaniment of half notes, starting with a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte). The fifth and sixth staves are empty.

136

*f*

Though he brings grief he will show com - pass - ion he will

*f*

Though he brings grief he will show com - pass - ion he will

*f*

Though he brings grief he will show com - pass - ion he will

*f*

Though he brings grief, show com - pass - ion

*f*

Though he brings grief, show com - pass - ion

I

141

show com - pass - ion So great is his un - fail - ing

show com - pass - ion So great is his un - fail - ing

show com - pass - sion So great is his un - fail - ing

he will show com - pass - ion

he will show com - pass - ion

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

I

*f*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*arco*

*f*

146 *cresc.*

love so great is his un-fail-ing love his love his

love so great is his un-fail-ing love his love his

love so great is his un-fail-ing love his love his

*mf* So great is his un-fail-ing love his love his

*mf* So great is his un-fail-ing love his love his

love his love his

love his love his

love his love his

*mf* love his love his

*mf* love his love his



Meno mosso e rit. al fine

156

fail - - ing love

Meno mosso e rit. al fine

*pp* *unis.*

*pp* *unis.*

*pp* *unis.*

*pp* *unis.*

*pp*

161

Musical score for measures 161-165. The score consists of five staves, all in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). Each staff contains a whole rest in every measure from 161 to 165. The notation is as follows:

Measure	Staff 1	Staff 2	Staff 3	Staff 4	Staff 5
161	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest
162	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest
163	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest
164	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest
165	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest

Musical score for measures 166-170. The score consists of five staves, all in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The notation is as follows:

Measure	Staff 1	Staff 2	Staff 3	Staff 4	Staff 5
166	Quarter note G#4				
167	Half note G#4				
168	Half note G#4				
169	Half note G#4				
170	Half note G#4				