

At the Cry of the First Bird

Easter Anthem Arranged for SATB Choir by Keith D Rowley

Music by
David M. Guion

Words from
Ancient Irish Poetry

Slowly, with great dignity and feeling

The musical score consists of eight staves of music. The top staff is for the Piano, marked with dynamics like *f* and *mf*. The second staff is for the SA (Soprano-Alto) voices, which sing the main melody. The third staff is for the TB (Tenor-Bass) voices, providing harmonic support. The fourth staff is for the Unis (Unison) voices, also singing the melody. The fifth staff is for the piano's bass line, marked with *p* and *8va*. The sixth staff continues the piano's bass line. The seventh staff features a division between the piano's bass line and the vocal parts, with the piano playing eighth-note chords. The eighth staff concludes the score with a final piano chord.

Piano

SA

TB

Unis.

fy Thee, They be - gan to cru - ci - fy Thee, at the cry of the first bird.

Div.

O cheek like a swan!

O cheek like a swan!

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Unis. It was not right——— ev - er to cease la -

ment - ing. Div. It was like the

part - ing of day from night.

mf *f l.h.* *ff*

V *V*

l.h. *l.h.* *l.h.* *r.h.*

r.h. *retard* *r.h.* *slower* *r.h.* *mf* *mp* *p*

Ah! though sore the suf - fer-ing Put up - on the bod - y of Ma - ry's
as at first

Son. Sor - er to Him was the grief That was up - on her

for His sake.

retard *in time*

At the cry
 Unis.

8va

— of the first bird — They be - gan to cru - ci - fy Thee, They be - gan to cru - ci -

fy Thee. O cheek like a swan! O cheek, like a
 Div.

The musical score consists of five staves. The top three staves are for the orchestra, each with a treble clef and a key signature of four flats. The bottom two staves are for the piano, with a bass clef and a key signature of four flats. The vocal part, labeled "Unis.", begins with a sustained note on the first beat of each measure. The piano accompaniment features eighth-note chords. The vocal line includes the word "swan!" in measure 2. Measure 3 concludes with a piano dynamic of *p* (piano) and a bass clef instruction "8va".

Music score showing two staves. The top staff uses a treble clef and has a key signature of four flats. The bottom staff uses a bass clef and has a key signature of four flats. Both staves are in common time. The music consists of six measures. Measures 1-3 show eighth-note patterns in the top staff and sixteenth-note patterns in the bottom staff. Measures 4-6 show sustained notes with grace notes above them. Measure 6 concludes with a dynamic marking of *ppp*.