



# **We Who Mourn**

*by Peter Billam*


*For six-voice and nine-voice choir*

© Peter J Billam, 2006

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# We Who Mourn

♩ = 90

5

We who mourn, who gather  
 We who mourn, who mourn  
 We who mourn, who mourn,  
 We who mourn, we who mourn,  
 We who mourn we who mourn  
 We who mourn we who mourn

here in song, here in song,  
 we gather here in song, in song,  
 gather here in song, in song,  
 mourn gather here in song,  
 we gather here in song, in song,  
 ga - ther here in song,

10

All the life of the  
 we mourn;  
 we ga - ther here to mourn;  
 All the life,  
 we ga - ther here to mourn;  
 All the



years of sun and breath, and love  
of breath, and love and  
sun and breath, of sun and breath, and love  
breath, and love, and  
sun and breath, and love  
sun and breath,

and food and death;  
love, and fear and death,  
and love and food and fear and death, and  
love, and food and fear and death, and  
and food and fear and death;  
and death;

All the life of the a - ges, all the  
and death, and death; All the  
death; All the life  
death; All the life, all the life of  
All the life of the ages, all the

35

life of the a - ges , e - very dawn and e - very birth and  
 life All the life of all the a - ges ,  
 of the ages , e - very dawn and  
 all the a - ges , e - very  
 life of the a - ges , e - very dawn and e - very birth and  
 All the life of the a - ges ,

e - very, e - very dawn and e - very birth,  
 e - very birth  
 e - very birth , and e - very dawn and e - very birth ,  
 dawn and e - very birth , e - very birth ,  
 e - very dawn and e - very birth ,  
 e - very dawn and e - very birth

40

we ga - ther here , we ga - ther here to mourn .  
 we ga - ther here , we ga - ther here to mourn .  
 we ga - ther here , we ga - ther here to mourn .  
 we ga - ther here to mourn .  
 we ga - ther here to mourn .  
 we ga - ther here to mourn .



of num - ber , pen and poem . We sing of bow and string and cloth and  
 We sing of bow , string and cloth ,  
 poem , we sing of bow and string and cloth and  
 pen and po - em , we sing of bow , we sing of string and cloth ,  
 and num - ber , and pen and poem , bow and  
 string and cloth and home ;  
 of bow and string and cloth  
 we a - chieved ,

10

home , of book and dance and poet , of ev - ery  
 and home , book and dance and poet ,  
 home ; we sing of book and dance and poet , of ev - ery  
 ev - ery home and book , ev - ery dance and poet ,  
 cloth and home , every book and dance , every poet ,  
 home ; every book and dance , every  
 of book and dance , and poet , every rope ,  
 and home ; of book , and dance and

the words

15

rope , every te - non , ev - ery boat , for what we made and  
 every tenon , every boat , for what we made and  
 rope , ev - ery te - non and every boat , for what we made and  
 every rope , every tenon every boat , for what we made and  
 every rope ev - ery tenon every boat ,  
 poet , every tenon and ev - ery boat ,  
 ev - ery te - non ev - ery boat ,  
 poet , and te - non and boat ,

we wrote ;

20

sang and thought and built and wrote . Be - fore the rain and tide wash these  
 sang and thought and built and wrote . Be - fore the rain and tide wash  
 sang and thought and built and wrote . Be - fore the rain and tide wash  
 sang and thought and built and wrote .  
 Be - fore the rain and tide wash these  
 before  
 be -  
 before

before



pa - ges from our em - pty rooms and feed them to the  
 these pages from our empty rooms and feed them to the o - cean ,  
 these pa - ges from our rooms , we  
 before the rain and tide wash these pa - ges from our  
 pa - ges from our em - pty rooms , we  
 rain , tide and rain wash these pa - ges from our em - pty rooms  
 fore the rain and tide wash these pa - ges from our rooms  
 rain and tide wash these pa - ges from our  
 the rain and tide

25

o - cean , we ga - ther here to grieve .  
 We ga - ther here to grieve .  
 ga - ther here , we ga - ther here to grieve .  
 em - pty rooms , we ga - ther here to grieve .  
 ga - ther here to grieve  
 We ga - ther here to grieve .  
 we ga - ther here to grieve .  
 em - pty rooms , we ga - ther here to grieve .  
 we ga - ther here to grieve .  
 we ga - ther here to grieve .

III

♩ = 72

*mp*

5

The long light - years

*pp*

The long light - years a - round our

*pp* *mp*

The long light - years round

The long light - years a - round our lone - ly

*pp* The long light - years

10

*mf*

15

cold and far ,

*mp*

cold and far , bear no song

lone - ly world

*mf* *mp*

our lone - ly world bear no song

world cold and far ,

*mf* *mp*

world cold and far , bear no song

a - round our world , cold and far , bear no song

20

*pp* *mf* .. dim ..

bear no song we mourn a - lone,

*mf* .. dim ..

we mourn a - lone,

*mf* .. dim ..

song we mourn a - lone, mourn our lone - ly

*mf* .. dim ..

song we mourn a - lone,

.. dim .. we mourn a - lone,

25 30

*. dim ..* *f* mourn deep, *mp*  
*p* mourn deep, *p* will soon  
*p* we mourn *. cresc ..* deep, *p* will soon  
 world, *. dim ..* *p* *. cresc ..* we will soon *mp*  
*f* we mourn deep, *mp* will soon

mourn deep, will soon

35 40

*. dim ..* *p*  
*. dim ..* *p* the long light  
*p* the long light -  
 we will not mourn long; *pp* the long light -  
*. dim ..* *pp* the long, *mp* long light -  
*. dim ..* the long *p* light - years

be gone; the long light - years

45

*mf* bear no song . *dim ..*  
*mp* years bear no song .  
*mp* years bear no song . *dim ..*  
*mp* years will bear no song, they bear no song . *dim ..*  
*mp* years bear no song . *dim ..*  
 bear no song .

bear no song .

**Peter Billam** was born in London in 1948, studied piano, and lived in Switzerland from 1973 to 1983, where he studied composition, classical guitar, flute and voice, worked as Musical Director of the *Théâtre Populaire Romand*, and as recording engineer, record producer and computer programmer. He moved to Tasmania in 1983, and lectured in composition at the Conservatorium. He founded **pjb.com.au**, becoming the first composer to sell scores on-line, taking scores from Composer to Performer in one immediate step. *pjb.com.au* offers a new approach to music publishing. These pieces are **written to be read, made to be played !**

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**Arrangements** include: By J. S. Bach: *Trio BWV 655*, piano and flute; *Vor deinen Thron BWV 668*, piano; *Fugue in F minor BWV 689*, SATB recorders; *Four Duets BWV 802-5*, keyboard; *Six Preludes and Fugues* from Book I, keyboard; *Flute Sonata BWV 1031* in G major for alto recorder and keyboard; *Flute Sonata BWV 1032* completed by Peter Billam for flute and keyboard, also in C major for alto recorder, and in G major for descant; *Ricercare a 3 of the Musikalisches Opfer* for keyboard; *Ricercare a 6*, for sSATBG recorders, or strings, or two keyboards; and *Fuga Canonica*; from the *Art of Fugue: Contrapuncti 1, 4 and 9* for keyboard, and *Contrapunctus 14* as completed by D. F. Tovey, for keyboard, or for SATB recorders, or for strings; *Passacaglia and Fugue in c* for piano four hands; *Chorales with Descant* for melody instrument and piano; *Cello Suites I, II and III* for flute or alto recorder, *Forty Chorales* for piano, *Der Geist hilft* for SATB-SATB recorders. By Bartók: *Suite op.14* for piano. By Brahms: *Fugue in Ab minor for organ*, for SATB recorders and gamba, in A minor; *Choralvorspiele for organ* plus settings by Isaac, Bach, Praetorius, recorders. John Carr, *Divisions on an Italian Ground*, flute or recorder and guitar. Franz Liszt, *Late piano pieces*, G.F. Händel: *Concerto Grosso in A minor* op 6 no 4, harpsichord and recorders; *Recorder Sonata in Bb* no 5, in G for tenor recorder and keyboard. Claudio Monteverdi, *Ecco Mormorar l'Onde*, SSATB recorders. Arnold Schoenberg: *Verklärte Nacht* for piano. Franz Schubert: *Four Songs*, voice and guitar; *Dances*, recorders and guitar, *Dances*, piano 4 hands. Scriabin, *Two Preludes op.67*; *Five Preludes op.74*, piano. Telemann, *Twelve Flute Fantasias* and *Six Duets*, recorder. Wilbye, *Draw on sweet Night*, SSATTB recorders, and for flute choir. *Twelve Italian Songs* and *Seven English Songs*, voice and guitar; *Folk Guitar Solos*; *Fourteen Folk Dance Tunes*, recorder and guitar; *Bushband Dances*, violin, accordeon and banjo; *Easy Classical Pieces*, Bb trumpet and piano; *Famous Beginnings*, for piano.

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