



We Who Mourn

by Peter Billam

For six-voice and nine-voice choir

© Peter J Billam, 2006

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We Who Mourn

4 sec/bar

5

We who mourn, who gather

here in song, here in song,
 we gather here in song,
 here in song,
 here in song,
 here in song,
 here in song,
 here in song,

10

All the life of the
 we mourn;
 All the life,
 All the

15

world, all the life of the world, all the life of the world, all the life of the world, All the life of all the

world, A bil - lion years of sun and all the leaf and flesh of earth, A leaf and flesh of earth, a bil - lion years of all the leaf and flesh of earth, all the leaf and flesh of earth, world, all the leaf and flesh of earth,

20

breath, a bil - lion years of breath, a bil - lion bil - lion years of sun and breath, sun and breath a bil - lion years of sun and breath, a bil - lion years of sun and breath, A bil - lion years of sun and breath,

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
and death; All the life
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 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.

II

112 cro/min

What we a -
 We grieve for love
 We grieve to lose what we achieved,
 We grieve to lose what we achieved we
 We grieve to lose what we achieved, we
 We grieve for love, love of
 We grieve of word
 We grieve

5

achieved ! We grieve for love
 of word and num - ber, and pen and poem .
 we grieve for love of word and num - ber, pen and
 sing for love of word and num - ber
 a - chieved ; we grieve for love of word
 grieve for love of word and num - ber, pen and poem ,
 word and num - ber, pen and poem ; of bow and of
 and num - ber and pen and poem
 to lose what

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 .

III

72 cro/min

mp

5

The long light - years

pp

The long light - years a - round our

pp The long light - years *mp* round

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

pp The long light - years

10

mf

15

cold and far ,

mp

mp bear no song

lone - ly world

mf

mp bear no

our lone - ly world *mf* cold and far , *mp* bear no song

world cold and far , *mf* bear no

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

20

pp

mf

.. dim ..

bear no song we mourn a - lone,

.. dim ..

mf we mourn a - lone,

.. dim ..

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

.. dim ..

mf we mourn a - lone, *.. dim ..*

.. 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* .. *f* we will soon *mp*
we mourn *f* 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 -
be gone; *. dim* .. *pp* the long, *mp* long light -
be gone; *. dim* .. the long *p* light - years

45 *dim* ..

mf bear no song .
mp years bear no song .
mp years bear no song .
mp years will bear no song, they bear no song .
mp years bear no song . *dim* ..
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, lectured in composition at the Conservatorium, conducted recorder ensembles and choirs, studied recorder, voice and harpsichord. He founded www.pjb.com.au, becoming the first composer to sell scores on-line, with on-line delivery, taking scores from Composer to Performer in one immediate step. *Wwww.pjb.com.au* offers a new approach to music publishing. These pieces are **written to be read, made to be played !**

Compositions at www.pjb.com.au include: *Five Short Pieces*, guitar, 1979; *Divisions on an Italian Ground*, flute and guitar, 1980; *De Profundis* and *Nacht*, on poems by Lama Anagarika Govinda, voice and piano, 1980; *Fünf Bagatellen*, piano, 1980; *Five Rounds*, choir, 1986; *Go Forth and Multiply*, choir, 1986; *Three Violin Duets*, 1987; *Fable*, for piano, 1987; *To Erich Jantsch*, SAATTB recorders, 1988; *A Suite of Curves*, trombone (or horn) and piano, 1990; *Two Recorder Duets*, alto recorders, or other melody instruments, 1991; *Trombone Quintet*, trombone, flute, piano, bass, and percussion, 1994; *Three Songs*, on poems by Jack Kerouac, Vikram Seth and Dylan Thomas, voice and piano (only the first and third of these are available), 1994; *Piano Study*, piano, 1994; *Four Dances*, various ensembles including recorder quartet, string quartet, 1995; *The Poet in the Clouds*, on a poem by S. T. Coleridge, SATB choir, 1995; *Tres Casidas del Diván del Tamarit*, on poems by Federico García Lorca, voice and piano, 1997; *Three Suites*, for the solo line, piano, and piano and a solo line, 2000; *Die Zeiten*, on poems by Kästner, Bachman and Jünger, choir (only the second and third of these are available), 2000; *Three Duets* for flutes, 2001; *For Four Hands* for piano four hands, 2002; *Three Preludes* for piano, 2003; *Second Solo Suite* for flute, violin, viola or cello, 2003; *Guitar Duet* for two guitars, 2006; *We Who Mourn* for choir, 2007; *Trio With Guitar* for guitar and two clarinets or two recorders or two violas, 2008; *Canons* for two- and four-hand piano, 2009; *Flute Trio*, 2012; *Keyboard Studies*, 2013.

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; *Flute Sonata BWV 1031* transposed into 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*, from the *Musikalisches Opfer* for keyboard; *Ricercare a 6*, for sSATBG recorders, or strings, or two keyboards; *Fuga Canonica in Epi diapente* for keyboard and melody instrument; 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 Johannes 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. By 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. By Arnold Schoenberg: *Verklärte Nacht* for piano. By 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*, recorder. *John Wilbye*, *Draw on sweet Night*, SSATTB recorders, and for flute choir. *Twelve Italian Songs*, voice and guitar; *Fourteen Folk Dance Tunes*, recorder and guitar; *Bushband Dances*, violin, piano accordeon and banjo; *Easy Classical Pieces*, Bb trumpet and piano.

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