

AND
GLORY SHONE
AROUND

Jordan Sramek, Series Editor



The Great Day

I've a long time heard

THE GREAT DAY, John P. Reese

arr. Jordan Sramek

ROSE PUBLICATIONS

From the archives of *The ROSE ENSEMBLE*

Daniel Mahraun & Jordan Sramek, General Editors

Source: B. F. White and E. J. King, *The Sacred Harp*, 3rd ed. Philadelphia: S. C. Collins, 1860.

About the source / general notes on genre:

The roots of *Sacred Harp* singing (like *Southern Harmony*) are found in the American colonial era. Schools were created to provide instruction in choral singing, especially to the benefit of churches. In 1801, a book called *The Easy Instructor* by William Smith and William Little was published for the use of this movement; its distinguishing feature was the employment of four separate shapes that indicated the notes according to the rules of *solfege* (Do – Re – Mi – Fa – Sol – La – Ti – Do). A triangle indicated *fa*, a circle *sol*, a square *la* and a diamond, *mi*. To avoid proliferating shapes excessively, each shape (and its associated syllable) except for *mi* was assigned to two notes of the musical scale. A major scale in the system would be sung Fa - Sol - La - Fa - Sol - La - Mi - Fa, and a minor scale would be La - Mi - Fa - Sol - La - Fa - Sol - La.

It should be noted that the traditional methods of this rich heritage (still practiced by thousands today) dictate that the choir begin singing a piece with the appropriate *solfege* syllable for each pitch, using the shapes to guide them. For those in the group not yet familiar with the song (and/or to assist those unable to read musical notation), the shapes help with the task of sight-reading, while the process of reading through the song with the shapes also helps to fix the notes in the singers’ memories. Once the shapes have been sung, the group then sings the actual text of the song.

The traditional practice of shape-note singing calls for the hymns to be sung without instruments, allowing the voice alone to carry the melody. Indeed, even the word “harp” in the title of the afore-mentioned collection, *The Sacred Harp*, refers to the voice, not the actual instrument. However, many melodies in these collections were originally folk tunes, which were then harmonized and given new religious texts. Similarly, the tunes and texts in such collections surely were not “protected” from then being utilized by other musical traditions.

Text: Anonymous

Music: THE GREAT DAY, John P. Reese (1827–1900)

Editorial method / notes:

Spelling, punctuation, and usage have been modernized.

Performance suggestions:

The soloist in the first verse is especially encouraged to take time at the ends of phrases.

Duration: 3m 30s

386 THE GREAT DAY. (As sung by Judge Falkner of Ala.) John P. Reese.

I've a long time heard that there will be a judg-ment, That there will be a judg-ment in that day.

O, there will be a judgment in that day, O, sin-ner, where will you stand in that day?

1. I've a long time heard that the sun will be darken'd, That the sun will be darken'd in that day. O the sun will be darken'd in that day— Oh! sinner, where will you stand in that day?
2. I've a long time heard that the moon will be bleeding, That the moon will be bleeding in that day. O the moon will be bleeding in that day. Oh! sinner, where will you stand in that day?
3. I've a long time heard that the stars will be falling, That the stars will be falling in that day. O the stars will be falling in that day. Oh! sinner, where will you stand in that day?
4. I've a long time heard that the earth will be burning, That the earth will be burning in that day. O the earth will be burning in that day. Oh! sinner, where will you stand in that day?
5. I've a long time heard that the earth will be burning, That the earth will be burning in that day. O the earth will be burning in that day. Oh! sinner, where will you stand in that day?

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SA soli, SSA

Anonymous

THE GREAT DAY, John P. Reese (1827-1900)

arr. Jordan Sramek

ed. Daniel Mahraun

Prophetically (♩ = 60-63)

Soprano 1

Soprano 2 *mf* solo (*ad lib.*)

Alto

1. I've a long time heard that there will be a judgment That there

will be a judgment in that day. Oh there will be a

judgment in that day, Oh! sin-ner, where will you stand in that day?

1st time: soli
2nd time: tutti S & A

2. I've a long time heard that the sun will be dark-ened, That the
3. I've a long time heard that the moon will be bleed-ing, That the

2. I've a long time heard that the sun will be dark-ened, That the
3. I've a long time heard that the moon will be bleed-ing, That the

S 2

A

sun will be dark-ened in that day. Oh the sun will be
moon will be bleed-ing in that day. Oh the moon will be

A

sun will be dark-ened in that day. Oh the sun will be
moon will be bleed-ing in that day. Oh the moon will be

The Great Day

30 *rall.* *a tempo*

S 2
 dark - ened in that day, Oh! sin-ner, where will you stand in that day?
 bleed - ing in that day, Oh! sin-ner, where will you stand in that day?

A
 dark - ened in that day, Oh! sin-ner, where will you stand in that day?
 bleed - ing in that day, Oh! sin-ner, where will you stand in that day?

37 *mf*

S 1
 4. I've a long time heard that the stars will be fall - ing, That the

S 2
 4. I've a long time heard that the stars will be fall - ing, That the

A
 4. I've a long time heard that the stars will be fall - ing, That the

43

S 1
 stars will be fall - ing in that day. Oh the stars will be

S 2
 stars will be fall - ing in that day. Oh the stars will be

A
 stars will be fall - ing in that day. Oh the stars will be

48 *rall.* *a tempo*

S 1
 fall - ing in that day, Oh! sin-ner, where will you stand in that day?

S 2
 fall - ing in that day, Oh! sin-ner, where will you stand in that day?

A
 fall - ing in that day, Oh! sin-ner, where will you stand in that day?

With conviction

55 *f*

S 1
5. I've a long time heard that the earth will be burn-ing, That the

S 2
5. I've a long time heard that the earth will be burn-ing, That the

A
5. I've a long time heard that the earth will be burn-ing, That the

61

S 1
earth will be burn - ing in the day. Oh the earth will be

S 2
earth will be burn ing in day. Oh the earth will be

A
earth will burn ing in that day. Oh the earth will be

66 *ff* *rall.* *mf* *molto rit.*

S 1
burn - ing in that day, Oh! sin-ner, where will you stand in that day?

S 2
burn - ing in that day, Oh! sin-ner, where will you stand in that day?

A
burn - ing in that day, Oh! sin-ner, where will you stand in that day?