

The White Birds  
GP-B008  
SATB a cappella

Eric William Barnum

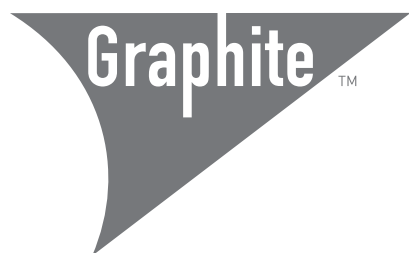
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# Eric William Barnum

## The White Birds

for a cappella SATB choir

Commissioned for the Hopewell Valley Central High School Chamber Singers, Pennington, New Jersey  
Brian Winnie, director; Peter J. Griffin, supervisor



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# The White Birds

for SATB choir, a cappella

William Butler Yeats

Eric William Barnum

*Freely, with great longing* ♩ = 60

*p* *sim.* *p*

Soprano  
Dream, — dream, — dream, — dream, — dream

*p* *sim.* *p*

Alto  
Dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m),

*p* *sim.* *p*

Tenor  
Dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m),

*p* *sim.* *p*

Bass  
dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m),

Piano  
*for rehearsal only*

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Please report performances of this piece to  
Eric Barnum at [eric@ewbmusic.com](mailto:eric@ewbmusic.com)

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6 *mf*

S dream \_\_\_\_\_ dream \_\_\_\_\_ dream I would that we were my be-

A dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m),

T dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m),

B dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m),

6

10

S lo - ved, white birds on the foam of the sea: We tire of the flame of the

A dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m),

T dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m),

B dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m),

10

14 *poco rall.* ♩ = 52 *mf*

S me-te-or, be - fore it can pass by and flee. And the flame of the blue star of

A dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), And the flame of the blue star of

T dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), And the flame of the blue

B dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), And the flame of the blue

*Tempo I°* (♩ = 60) *f*

S twi - light hung low, hung low on the rim of the sky, Has a - waked in our

A twi - light hung low, hung low, Has a - waked in our

T star hung low, Has a - waked in our

B star hung low, Has a - waked in our

22

S *mp*  
hearts, my be - lov - ed, a sad - ness.

A *mf* *p*  
hearts my be - lov - ed, sad - ness that ne - ver may die.

T *mp*  
8 hearts my be - lov - ed, sad - ness.

B *mf* *p*  
hearts my be - lov - ed, sad - ness that ne - ver may die.

22

26

S

A *pp* murmuring  
dream, dream, dream, dream, dream, dream, dream, dream, dream, dream, dream, dream,

T *mf*  
8 A wear - i - ness comes from those

B *p* *mp*  
\* Dream, dream,

26

\* Like large bells

29 *mp* *mf*

S Ah, Ah,

A dream, dream, dream, dream, dream, dream, dream, dream, dream, dream,

T dream-ers, dew dab - bled, the li - ly and the rose, Ah

B dream, dream,

29

32

S

A dream, dream, dream, dream, dream, dream, dream, dream, dream, dream,

T dream not of them, my be - lov - ed, ah dream not of them, my be -

B dream, dream, dream,

32

35 *p* *mp*

S the Flame,

A dream, dream, dream, dream, Flame, me-te-or,

T lov - ed, the flame, the

B flame,

35

37 *mf* *mf* *mf*

S flame, flame,

A flame, me-te-or flame, me-te-or

T flame, the flame, the

B *cresc. poco a poco* flame, the flame of the me-te-or,

37

*molto rall. .... piu mosso*

39

S flame, flame, were changed to white, were

A flame me-te-or, flame, were changed, were

T flame, the li - ly and the rose were changed to white, were

B *f* flame of the me-te-or, flame were changed, were

39

*poco rall.*

43

S changed, were we changed to white birds, I and you, I and you For

A changed, were we changed to white birds, I and you, I and you For

T changed, were we changed to white birds, we were changed For

B changed, were we changed to white birds, we were changed For

43

♩ = 52

48

*f* *mf*

S I am haunt-ed by num-ber-less is - lands Where Time would sure-ly for-get us, — where

*f* *mp*

A I am haunt-ed by num-ber-less is - lands Where Time —

*f* *mp*

T I am haunt-ed, I am haunt - ed, — Time

*f* *mp*

B I am haunt-ed, I am haunt - ed, — Time

48

52

*p*

S Time would sure-ly for-get — us, — And Sor-row, and Sor-row, and

*p*

A Time — (m), And Sor-row, and Sor-row, and

*p*

T Time — (m), And Sor-row, and Sor-row, and

*p*

B Time — (m), And Sor-row, and Sor-row, and

52

56 *pp* *mp*

S Sor - row\_ and Sor-row come near us no more: Soon, soon\_ far\_ from the

A *pp* *mp* Sor - row\_ come\_ no more: Soon\_ far,

T *pp* *mp* Sor - row\_ come\_ no\_ Soon\_ far,

B *pp* *mp* Sor - row\_ come\_ no more: Soon soon far,

56

*rall.*

60 3 3 3 3

S rose and the li-ly, the fret of flames, would we be,

A soon far, the fret of flames, would we be,

T soon far, soon, soon,

B soon far, soon, soon,

60 3 3 3 3

65 *a tempo* (♩=52) *mp*

S Were — we on - ly white — birds, *mp* changed, — to on - ly white —

A White — birds, — changed would we be,

T Were — we on - ly white — birds, *mp* changed — to on - ly white —  
8 My be - lov - ed, *mp* my be -

B My be - lov - ed, my be -

65

68

S

birds, I \_\_\_\_\_ and you, \_\_\_\_\_ I \_\_\_\_\_ and you. \_\_\_\_\_

A

buoy-ed on the foam of the sea, far from the flames would we be,  
birds, I \_\_\_\_\_ and you, \_\_\_\_\_ I \_\_\_\_\_ and you. \_\_\_\_\_

T

8 lov - ed, mm \_\_\_\_\_ mm \_\_\_\_\_

B

lov - ed, mm \_\_\_\_\_ mm \_\_\_\_\_

68

*Tempo I°*

72

S *p* Dream, dream, dream,

A *mp* bouyed on the foam of the sea. *p* Dream (m), dream (m), dream (m),

T *p* Dream (m), dream (m), dream (m),

B *p* Dream (m), dream (m), dream (m),

72

77

S dream, dream, dream, dream, dream,

A dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m),

T dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m),

B dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m), dream (m),

77

82 *mp*

S dream, Were we on - ly...

A dream (m), dream.

T dream (m), (m).

B dream (m), dream (m).

82

Piano accompaniment: The piano part features a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The melody is characterized by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, creating a flowing, lyrical quality. The bass line provides a steady harmonic foundation with sustained chords and moving lines.

## Eric William Barnum

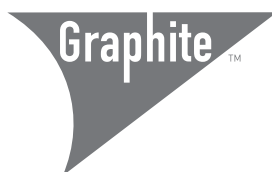


A conductor and composer, Eric William Barnum continues to passionately seek new ground in the choral field. Barnum is currently the Director of Choral Music at the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh. He holds a DMA in Choral Conducting from the University of Washington, an advanced degree in conducting from Minnesota State University, as well as BAs in Composition and Vocal Performance from Bemidji State University. He has appeared as a conductor across the United States, and has had the opportunity to work with some of the most innovative minds in the choral field.

His compositional voice and vision is gaining popularity around the globe with performances from choirs internationally. He continually composes for choral ensembles of all types, and has received numerous awards and prestigious grants such as a Bush Foundation Artist Fellowship and a McKnight Foundation Grant. He has also held residencies with such ensembles as Choral Arts (Seattle, WA), The Rose Ensemble (St. Paul, MN), Kantorei (Denver, CO), Magnum Chorum (Minneapolis, MN), Coro Vocal Artists (Tucson, AZ), as well as with many high schools and collegiate choirs.

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