

M. E. Valverde

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Best Wishes
for SATB chorus a cappella

*Let your love be ever blessed.
Let you hold yourselves with love,
And your days be simply filled with joy.
Let him cry on your shoulder
When he is sad.
Let you cry in his arms
When you are glad.
Let the words of your love be true.
Let them live through all you do.
Let us praise and share in your love,
But let us not know the greatness of your love!
For it is yours,
And only yours.
It is soft.
It is sweet.
But let it be the strongest thing that you know
So that it may always keep.*

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Composer's Notes

With words and music by Mari Esabel Valverde, "Best Wishes" was composed for a family friend's wedding and is appropriate for the celebration of love between any two persons. Sung in four parts a cappella, this work is melodically and harmonically accessible, and to include a variety of gender identities and sexual orientations, its lyrics may be adapted. The words "him," "he," and "his" may be replaced with "her," "she," and "her" or "them," "they," and "their" respectively, as appropriate.

This choral work is among the very first completed by the composer. It was written during her first year as an undergraduate student at St. Olaf College and was performed for the first time at her senior composition recital, in 2010, by a cohort of 24 students under the direction of a student conductor.

con dedicación a la Señora Yolanda Delgadillo Huckaby en la ocasión de su boda

Best Wishes

for SATB chorus a cappella

words and music by
Mari Esabel Valverde
b. 1987

As if a prayer ♩ = ca. 56

mp

Soprano

Let your love ___ be e-ver blessed. Let your love ___ be e-verblessed.

Alto

Let your love ___ be e-ver blessed. Let your love ___ be e - ver blessed.

Tenor

Let your love ___ be e-ver blessed. Let your love ___ be e - ver blessed.

Bass

Let your love ___ be e-ver blessed. Let your love ___ be e - ver blessed.

Piano
(for rehearsal
only)



⑤ *mf*

S Let you hold your - selves with love, And your days be sim - ply filled with joy.

A *mf*
Let you hold your - selves with love, And your days sim - ply filled with joy.

T *mf*
Let you hold your - selves with love, And your days filled with joy.

B *mf*
Let you hold your - selves with love, And your days filled with joy.

⑨ *p* *più f*

S Let *him cry on your shoul - der. When *he is sad. Let you cry in *his

A *p* *più f*
Let *him cry on your shoul - der. When *he is sad. Let you cry in *his

T *p* *più f*
Let *him cry on your shoul - der. When *he is sad. Let you cry in *his

B *p* *più f*
Let *him cry on your shoul - der. When *he is sad. Let you cry in *his

*Alternatively, "let her cry" or "let them cry," "she is sad" or "they are sad," "in her arms" or "in their arms," etc.

rit.

21

f *p freely*

S great-ness of your love! For it is yours, And on-ly yours. It is soft. It is sweet. But

A great-ness of your love! For it is yours, And on-ly yours. It is soft. It is sweet. But

T *f* *p freely*
8 great-ness of your love! It is soft. It is sweet.

B *f* *p freely*
great-ness of your love! It is soft. It is sweet.

27

poco rall.

mf *mf*

S let it be the strong-est thing that you know So that it may al-ways keep.

A *mf*
let it be the strong-est thing that you know So that it may al-ways keep.

T *mf*
8 [Let] it be the strong-est thing that you know So that it may al-ways keep.

B *mf*
[Let] it be the strong-est thing that you know So that it may al-ways keep.

A tempo

32

mp

S Let your love _____ be e - ver blessed. Let your love _____ be e - ver blessed.

mp

A Let your love _____ be e - ver blessed. Let your love _____ be e - ver blessed.

mp

T Let your love _____ be e - ver blessed. Let your love _____ be e - ver blessed.

mp

B Let your love _____ be e - ver blessed. Let your love _____ be e - ver blessed.

32

36

mf

S Let you hold _____ your - selves with love, _____ And your days _____ be sim - ply filled with joy.

mf

A Let you hold your - selves with love, And your days filled with joy.

mf

T Let you hold your - selves with love, And your days filled with joy.

mf

B Let you hold your - selves with love, And your days filled with joy.

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