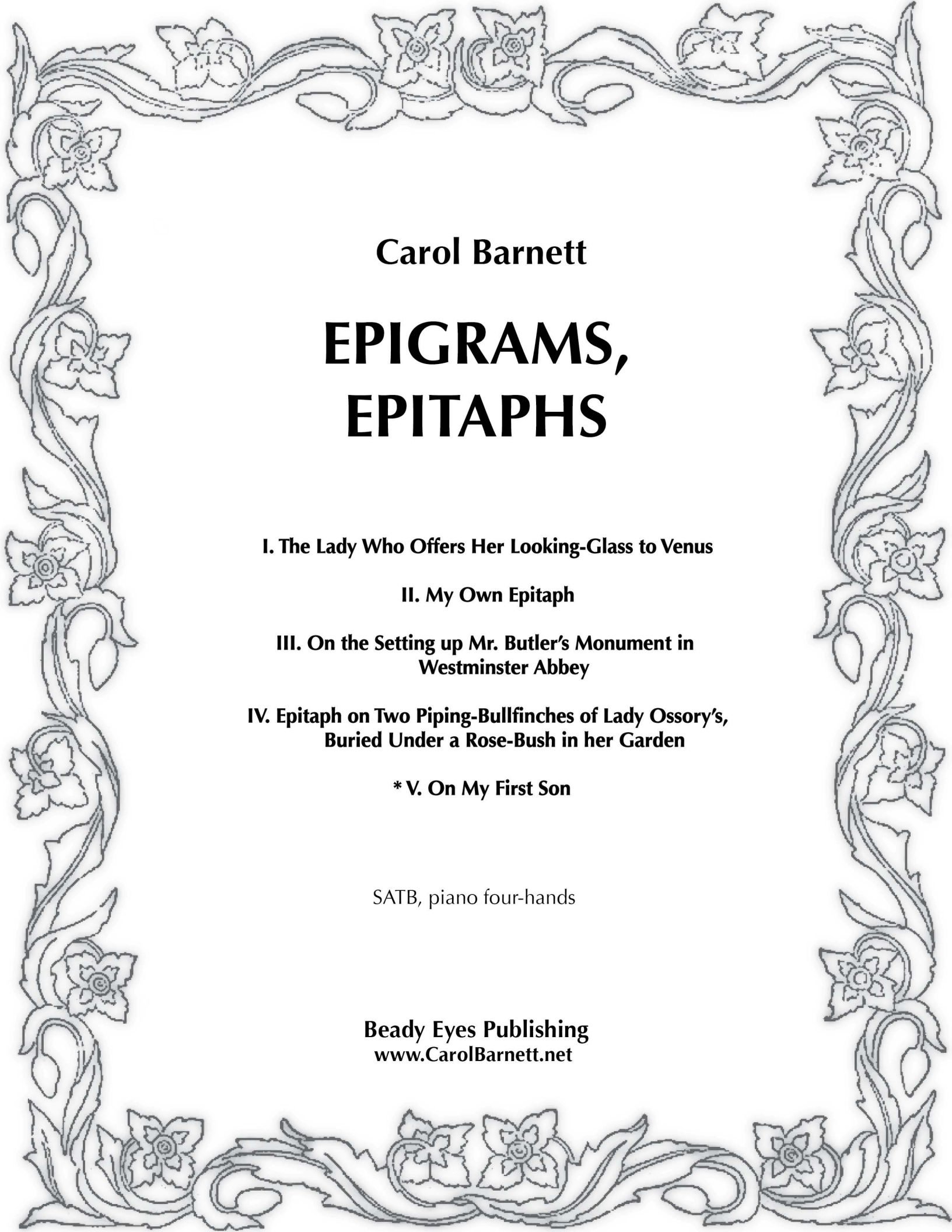


A decorative border of stylized flowers and leaves surrounds the text.

Carol Barnett

EPIGRAMS, EPITAPHS

I. The Lady Who Offers Her Looking-Glass to Venus

II. My Own Epitaph

**III. On the Setting up Mr. Butler's Monument in
Westminster Abbey**

**IV. Epitaph on Two Piping-Bullfinches of Lady Ossory's,
Buried Under a Rose-Bush in her Garden**

*** V. On My First Son**

SATB, piano four-hands

Beady Eyes Publishing
www.CarolBarnett.net

Epigrams, Epitaphs was written for the Grand Rapids Area Community Chorus. Director James Clarke wanted a companion piece to Brahms *Liebeslieder Waltzes*, hence the piano four-hand accompaniment. One of Ben Jonson's most moving epigrams, *On My First Son* is set simply and solemnly, with somber bells in the background. The mixed meters and pauses mirror the distracted disorientation of grief.

On My First Son

Farewell, thou child of my right hand, and joy;
My sin was too much hope of thee, lov'd boy,
Seven years thou wert lent to me, and I thee pay,
Exacted by thy fate, on the just day.
O, could I lose all father, now. For why
Will man lament the state he should envy?
To have so soon 'scap'd world's, and flesh's rage,
And if no other misery, yet age?
Rest in soft peace, and, ask'd, say here doth lie
Ben. Jonson his best piece of poetry.
For whose sake, henceforth, all his vows be such,
As what he loves may never like too much.

Duration: c. 3:30

V. On My First Son

Ben Jonson (1572-1637)

Carol Barnett

Espressivo, poco rubato
♩ = 50; ♪ constant

Soprano
p
Fare - well, thou child of my right hand, and joy; _____

Alto
p
Fare - well, thou child of my right hand, and joy; _____

Tenor
p
Fare - well, thou child of my right hand, and joy; _____

Bass
p
Fare - well, thou child of my right hand, and joy; _____

Piano I
Espressivo, poco rubato
♩ = 50; ♪ constant
mf

Piano II
Espressivo, poco rubato
♩ = 50; ♪ constant
p

Pedal ad lib.
(very resonant but clean)

V. On My First Son

5

S *mp*
My sin was too much hope of thee, lov'd boy, Sev - en years thou wert

A *mp*
My sin was too much hope of thee, lov'd boy, Sev - en years thou wert

T *mp*
My sin was too much hope of thee, lov'd boy, Sev - en years thou wert

B *mp*
My sin was too much hope of thee, lov'd boy, Sev - en years thou wert

Pno. I *mp*

Pno. II *mp*

8vb_ J

10

S
lent to me, — and I thee pay, Ex - act - ed by thy fate, —

A
lent to me, — and I thee pay, Ex - act - ed by thy fate, —

T
8
lent to me, — and I thee pay, — Ex - act - ed by thy fate, —

B
lent to me, — and I thee pay, Ex - act - ed by thy fate, —

Pno. I
10

Pno. II
10

For Pears Publishing

13

S — on the just day. *p* *mp* O, could I

A — on the just day. *p* *mp* O, could I

T — on the just day. *p* *mp* O, could I

B — on the just day. *p* *mp* O, could I

Pno. I 13 *p* *mp*

Pno. II 13 *p* *mp*

The musical score is for a vocal quartet (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment (Piano I and Piano II). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The tempo is marked 'Andante'. The score begins at measure 13. The vocal parts have lyrics: '— on the just day. O, could I'. The piano parts are marked with dynamics *p* (piano) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The score is published by 'Forpus Publishing'.

17

S lose all fa - ther, now. For why Will man la - ment the state he should

A lose all fa - ther, now. For why Will man la - ment the state he should

T 8 lose all fa - ther, now. For why Will man la - ment the state he should

B lose all fa - ther, now. For why Will man la - ment the state he should

Pno. I 17

Pno. II 17

21

S en - vy? To have so soon 'scap'd world's, and flesh - 's

A en - vy? To have so soon 'scap'd world's, and flesh - 's

T en - vy? To have so soon 'scap'd world's, and flesh - 's

B en - vy? To have so soon 'scap'd world's, and flesh - 's

Pno. I

Pno. II

21

21

25

S *mf* *p*
rage, And if no oth - er mis - er - y, yet age?

A *mf* *p*
rage, And if no oth - er mis - er - y, yet age?

T *mf* *p*
rage, And if no oth - er mis - er - y, yet age?

B *mf* *p*
rage, And if no oth - er mis - er - y, yet age?

Pno. I *mf* *p*

Pno. II *mf* *p*
(b) .

28

S *pp* Rest in soft peace, and, ask'd, say

A *pp* Rest in soft peace, and, ask'd, say

T *pp* Rest in soft peace, and, ask'd, say

B *pp* Rest in soft peace, and, ask'd, say

Pno. I *pp*

Pno. II *pp*

8vb

32

S here doth lie Ben. — Jon - son his best piece of po - et - ry. *mp* *p*

A here doth lie Ben. — Jon - son his best piece of po - et - ry. *mp* *p*

T here doth lie Ben. — Jon - son his best piece of po - et - ry. *mp* *p*

B here doth lie Ben. — Jon - son his best piece of po - et - ry. *mp* *p*

Pno. I 32 *mp* *p*

Pno. II 32 *mp* *p*

The musical score is for a vocal and piano setting of 'V. On My First Son'. It features four vocal parts: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The lyrics are: 'here doth lie Ben. — Jon - son his best piece of po - et - ry.' The score is in G minor (three flats) and 4/4 time. The vocal parts begin at measure 32. The piano parts (Pno. I and Pno. II) also begin at measure 32. The score includes dynamic markings of mezzo-piano (*mp*) and piano (*p*). The piano parts provide harmonic support for the vocal lines. The score is published by Beady Eyes Publishing.

36

S

A

T

B

For whose sake, — hence - forth, all his vows be

Pno. I

Pno. II

40

S *mp* *pp*
such, As what he loves may nev - er like too much.

A *mp* *pp*
such, As what he loves may nev - er like too much.

T *mp* *pp*
such, As what he loves may nev - er like too much.

B *mp* *pp*
such, As what he loves may nev - er like too much.

Pno. I *mp* *pp*

Pno. II *mp* *pp*
8vb

45 *rall.*

Pno. II 8vb