

DT0103.1 | TRUMBORE
THE SALLOW HARP | SATB CHORUS, HARP & PIANO

THE SALLOW HARP

SATB Chorus, Harp & Piano
Text by Julie Kane

The logo for Dale Trumbore, featuring a stylized musical note above the word "daletrumbore" in a lowercase, sans-serif font. Below the name, the word "composer" is written in a smaller, lowercase, sans-serif font, with each letter spaced out.

daletrumbore
c o m p o s e r

THE OLD IRISH HARPERS

Those were not the instruments
of angels up in clouds
but of human beings
blinded by smallpox
Their hearing grown sharp as a fox's
Their nails grown long as the talons of eagles
to pluck strings of brass or silver
that would cut modern fingertips like razors

The last of them
Denis Hempson from Magilligan
Taught by Bridget O'Cahan
He lived to one hundred and eleven
Now he's buried in St. Aidan's
with the bones of my O'Cahans

And his songs are just symbols on a page
Oh I could steal a sallow harp
from a glass museum case
I could sharpen my nails
to quill-points

But who is left to teach me to play
those strings that ring like bells
but cut like knives,
the music of the old Irish harpers?

Julie Kane

*Note: O'Cahan is pronounced "oh KAH hen."
Sallow is another word for willow.*

PROGRAM NOTE

The Sallow Harp was commissioned by the Macalester College Chorale, directed by Michael McGaghie.

PERFORMANCE NOTE

Sopranos may omit the B below middle C if range is an issue.

The final measures of the piano part involve plucking the strings inside the instrument while the pedal is held. Small post-it flags may be placed in advance to identify the strings/pitches without damaging the strings. If the pianist plucks the wrong note by mistake, they should simply let the wrong note(s) be a half note, then continue on with the other note(s).

The Sallow Harp

for SATB chorus, harp & piano

Text by Julie Kane

Music by Dale Trumbore

♩ = ca. 100 or slower

The score is written for Harp and SATB Chorus. It begins with a tempo marking of *ca. 100 or slower*. The Harp part starts with a *mf* dynamic. The Chorus part begins at measure 6, with Soprano and Alto parts starting at measure 11. The lyrics are: "Those were not the instruments of angels up in clouds". The score includes dynamics such as *mp*, *f*, and *mf*. A large blue watermark "FOR PERUSAL ONLY" is overlaid diagonally across the page.

Harp

Harp

S.

A.

T.

B.

Harp

The Sallow Harp

2

15

S. *p* not the in - stru - ments of an - gels but of

A. *p* not the in - stru - ments of an - gels but of

T. *p* not the in - stru - ments of an - gels but of

B. *p* not the in - stru - ments of an - gels but of

Hp. *mp*

19

S. *mf* hu - man be - ings

A. *mf* hu - man be - ings

T. *mf* hu - man be - ings blind - ed by small-pox Their hear - ing grown

B. *mf* hu - man be - ings blind - ed by small-pox Their hear - ing grown

Hp. *mf* *p* *mf*

Pno. *mf*

Ped.

The Sallow Harp

24

S. Their nails grown long as the

A. Their nails grown long as the

T. sharp as a fox - 's Their nails grown long as the

B. sharp as a fox - 's Their nails grown long as the

Hp.

Pno.

29

S. tal - ons of ea - gles to pluck strings of brass or sil - ver that would

A. tal - ons of ea - gles to pluck strings of brass or sil - ver that would

T. tal - ons of ea - gles

B. tal - ons of ea - gles

Hp.

Pno.

The Sallow Harp

33

S. *mf*
cut mod - ern fin - ger-tips like ra - zors.

A. *mf*
cut mod - ern fin - ger-tips like ra - zors.

Hp. *f*

Pno. *f*

38

S. *pp*
mm

A. *pp*
mm

T. *p* *mf*
The last of them De - nis Hemp - son from Ma-gil - li-gan

B. *p* *mf*
The last of them De - nis Hemp - son from Ma-gil - li-gan

Hp. *mp* *p* *mf* *p*

Pno. *mp* *p* *p*

The Sallow Harp

43

S. *mm.* He lived to one

A. He lived to one

T. Taught by Brid-get O - Ca - han He lived to one

B. Taught by Brid-get O - Ca - han He lived to one

Hp. *mf* *p* C#

Pno. *mf* *p*

48

S. *mf* hun-dred and e - lev - en

A. *mf* hun-dred and e - lev - en

T. *mf* hun-dred and e - lev - en

B. *mf* hun-dred and e - lev - en

Hp. *mf* B \sharp

Pno. *mp* (h) \sharp

The Sallow Harp

6

52

S. *p*
Now he's bur-ied in St. Ai - dan's with the

A. *p*
Now he's bur-ied in St. Ai - dan's with the

T. *p*
oh

B. *p*
oh

52

Hp. *p*

Pno. *p*

57

S. *p*
bones of my O' - Ca - hans And his songs are just sym-bols on a

A. *mp*
bones of my O' - Ca - hans his songs are just sym-bols on a

T. *p*
And his songs are just sym-bols on a

B. *mp*
his songs are just sym-bols on a

57

Hp. *mf* *p*

Pno. *mf* 5 *p*

The Sallow Harp

61 *f* *rit.* *p*

S. *f* *p*
page Oh

A. *f* *p*
page Oh

T. *f* *p*
page Oh

B. *f* *p*
page Oh

Hp. *f* *mf*

Pno. *f* *mp*

♩ = ca 88 or slightly slower

65 *mp* *mf*

S. I could steal a sal-low harp from a glass mu - se - um case

A. I could steal a sal-low harp from a glass mu - se - um case

T. ah oo I

B. ah oo

65 *mp* *mf*

Hp. *mp* *mf*

Pno. *p* *mf*

The Sallow Harp

8

69

S. ah I

A. ah I

T. could shar-pen my nails to quill - points

B. I could shar-pen my nails to quill - points

69

Hp. non arp. ord. *f*

Pno. bell-like *mf* *p*

73

S. could shar-pen my nails to quill - points But *p*

A. could shar-pen my nails to quill - points But *p*

T. I could shar-pen my nails to quill - points But *p*

B. I could shar-pen my nails to quill - points But *p*

73

Hp. *mf* *p*

Pno. *mf* *p*

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for 'The Sallow Harp'. It features four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass), a Harp (Hp.), and a Piano (Pno.). The score is divided into two systems. The first system starts at measure 69 and ends at measure 72. The vocal parts have lyrics: 'ah I' for Soprano and Alto, and 'could shar-pen my nails to quill - points' for Tenor and Bass. The Harp part has markings 'non arp.' and 'ord. f'. The Piano part has a 'bell-like' marking and dynamic markings 'mf' and 'p'. The second system starts at measure 73 and ends at measure 76. The vocal parts have lyrics: 'could shar-pen my nails to quill - points But' for Soprano and Alto, and 'I could shar-pen my nails to quill - points But' for Tenor and Bass. The Harp part has dynamic markings 'mf' and 'p'. The Piano part has dynamic markings 'mf' and 'p'. A large blue watermark 'For Personal Use Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

The Sallow Harp

77 *rit.* *pp* = ca 72

S. who is left who is left who is left to

A. who is left? who is left who is left to

T. who is left? who is left who is left to

B. who is left? who is left who is left to

Hp. *p*

Pno.

82 *p* *mf*

S. teach me to play those strings that ring like bells but

A. teach me to play those strings that ring like bells but

T. teach me to play those strings that ring like bells but

B. teach me to play those strings that ring like bells but

Hp. *p* *mf*

Pno. *p* *mf*

The Sallow Harp

10

87

S. *f* cut like knives, *mp* the mu - sic of the old I - rish

A. *f* cut like knives, *mp* the mu - sic of the old I - rish

T. *f* cut like knives, *mp* the mu - sic of the old I - rish

B. *f* cut like knives, *mp* the mu - sic of the old I - rish

87

Hp. *ff non arp.* *mf* *mp*

Pno. *f* *mf*

92 *mf* *rit.* *pp* ♩ = ca 66

S. har - pers? But who is left?

A. har - pers? But who is left?

T. har - pers? But who is left?

B. har - pers? But who is left?

92 *mf* *p* *pp*

Hp.

Pno.

96 *mp*

S. who is left

A. who is left

T. who is left

B. who is left

Harp. *mf* *p*

Piano. *p* *f* *p*

102 **poco accel.** *mf* ♩ = ca. 72

S. the mu - sic of the old I - rish har - pers?

A. the mu - sic of the old I - rish har - pers?

T. the mu - sic of the old I - rish har - pers?

B. the mu - sic of the old I - rish har - pers?

Harp. *p* *mf*

Piano.

The Sallow Harp

106

S. *pp* the mu - sic of the old *poco* I - rish har - pers? *p*

A. *pp* the mu - sic of the old *poco* I - rish har - pers? *p*

T. *pp* the mu - sic of the old *poco* I - rish har - pers? *p*

B. *pp* the mu - sic of the old *poco* I - rish har - pers? *p*

Hp. *p*

Pno. *pp*

110

S. *ppp* *rit.* ♩ = ca. 60

A. *ppp*

T. *ppp*

B. *ppp*

110

Pno. *mf* *f*

Inside the piano pizzicato (with fingernail) bell-like

Red.