

The Inarticulate Burr

an ode by **Edward Dowden**

*set to music for
soloists, choir and instrumental ensemble*

by

Edward Lambert

Vocal score

Edward Dowden (1843-1913)

The Secret of the Universe

An Ode

(*By a Western Spinning Dervish*)

I SPIN, I spin, around, around,
And close my eyes,
And let the bile arise
From the sacred region of the soul's Profound;
Then gaze upon the world; how strange! how new!
 The earth and heaven are one,
 The horizon-line is gone,
The sky how green! the land how fair and blue!
Perplexing items fade from my large view,
And thought which vexed me with its false and true
Is swallowed up in Intuition; this,
 This is the sole true mode
 Of reaching God,
And gaining the universal synthesis
Which makes All—One; while fools with peering eyes
Dissect, divide, and vainly analyse.
So round, and round, and round again!
How the whole globe swells within my brain,
The stars inside my lids appear,
The murmur of the spheres I hear
Throbbing and beating in each ear;
Right in my navel I can feel
The centre of the world's great wheel.
Ah peace divine, bliss dear and deep,
 No stay, no stop,
 Like any top
Whirling with swiftest speed, I sleep.
O ye devout ones round me coming,
Listen! I think that I am humming;
 No utterance of the servile mind
 With poor chop-logic rules agreeing
 Here shall ye find,
But inarticulate burr of man's unsundered being.
Ah, could we but devise some plan,
Some patent jack by which a man
Might hold himself ever in harmony
With the great whole, and spin perpetually,
 As all things spin
 Without, within,
As Time spins off into Eternity,
And Space into the inane Immensity,
And the Finite into God's Infinity,
 Spin, spin, spin, spin.

The Inarticulate Burr

Cantata for soloists, choir and instrumental ensemble

PERFORMERS

Soprano solo

Tenor solo

Bass solo

Mixed choir (SATB)

2 Flutes

Oboe

Harp

2 String Quartets (4 Violins, 2 Violas, 2 Cellos)

Double Bass

A vocal score with piano reduction is available

Duration: about 13 minutes

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A 'burr' is defined as a whirring sound, like the drone of a spinning top; as a secondary meaning, it can also refer to a rough edge or texture to be removed from the surface of an object.

Vocal score

The Inarticulate Burr an Ode

words by Edward Dowden

Edward Lambert

Lively at first $\text{♩} = 96$

This section of the musical score consists of five staves. From top to bottom: Soprano (treble clef), Alto (treble clef), Tenor (bass clef with an 8th note indicator), Bass (bass clef), and Piano (two staves, treble and bass). The vocal parts sing the lyrics "I spin, I spin a-round, I". The piano part provides harmonic support with eighth-note chords.

This section continues the musical score from the previous page. The vocal parts sing the lyrics "I spin, I spin a-round, I". The piano part maintains its harmonic function with eighth-note chords.

This section continues the musical score. The vocal parts sing the lyrics "spin, I spin a-round, I". The piano part continues to provide harmonic support with eighth-note chords. The vocal parts then sing "spin, _____" followed by a sustained note.

S
A
T
B

Pno.

This page contains four staves for voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and two staves for piano. The vocal parts consist of single notes or short dashes. The piano parts show sixteenth-note patterns with a bass line below. Measure numbers 1 through 7 are present above the vocal staves, and measure numbers 8 through 12 are present above the piano staves. The vocal parts begin with a note on the first beat of each measure, while the piano parts start on the second beat.

8

S
A
T
B

This section continues the musical score from the previous page. It features the same four voices and two piano staves. The vocal parts now begin on the second beat of each measure. The piano parts continue their sixteenth-note patterns. Measure numbers 8 through 12 are indicated above the vocal staves, and measure numbers 13 through 17 are indicated above the piano staves. The vocal parts enter earlier in the measures than the piano parts.

8

Pno.

This section concludes the musical score. It features the same four voices and two piano staves. The vocal parts begin on the second beat of each measure. The piano parts continue their sixteenth-note patterns. Measure numbers 8 through 12 are indicated above the vocal staves, and measure numbers 13 through 17 are indicated above the piano staves. The vocal parts enter earlier in the measures than the piano parts.

Soprano (S):

spin, I spin a-round, I spin, _____

Alto (A):

spin, I spin a-round, I spin, _____

Tenor (T):

$\frac{8}{8}$ spin, I spin a-round, I spin, _____

Bass (B):

spin, I spin a-round, I spin, _____

Piano (Pno.):

Accompaniment with sixteenth-note patterns in both treble and bass staves.

Musical score for soprano (S), alto (A), tenor (T), bass (B), and piano (Pno.). The score consists of two systems separated by a vertical bar line. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) are in treble clef, while the piano part is in bass clef. The piano part features sixteenth-note patterns with a bass line underneath. Measure numbers 6 are indicated below each piano staff.

14

Soprano (S) Alto (A) Tenor (T) Bass (B)

I I I I

14

Piano (Pno.)

(♩=♪ throughout)

Soprano (S) Alto (A) Tenor (T) Bass (B)

spin, I spin a-round, I spin, spin, spin, spin, _____

spin, I spin a-round, I spin, spin, spin, spin, _____

spin, I spin a-round, I spin, spin, spin, I

spin, I spin a-round, I spin, spin, spin, I

12

Piano (Pno.)

S
A
T
B
Pno.

I spin a-round, I spin a-round, spin a-round, spin a-round, I spin, And close my eyes,
I spin a-round, I spin a-round, spin a-round, spin a-round, I spin, And close my eyes,
spin a-round, spin a-round, I spin, And close my eyes,
I spin, And close my eyes,

19

S
A
T
B

eyes, I spin a-round, I spin, spin, spin, I
eyes, I spin a-round, I spin, spin, spin, spin, spin, I
eyes, I spin a-round, I spin, spin, spin, spin, I
eyes, I spin a-round, I spin, spin, spin, spin, I

19

Pno.

S
A
T
B

spin, I spin a-round, I spin a-round, And close my
spin a-round, spin a-round, I spin a-round, And close my
spin, I spin a-round, I spin a-round, And close my
spin, spin a-round, spin a-round, I spin, And close my

Pno.

S
A
T
B

eyes, I spin a-round, I
eyes, I spin a-round, I
eyes, I spin a-round, I
eyes, I spin a-round, I

Pno.

25

Solo parts (Soprano, Tenor, Bass) sing "I spin, I spin a-round," in unison.

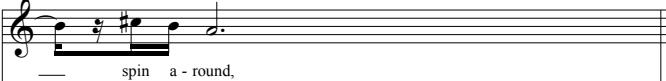
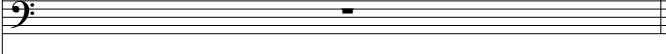
Chorus (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) sing "spin," in unison.

Piano accompaniment consists of eighth-note chords in 6/8 time.

Reprise of the vocal line "I spin, I spin a-round," by Solo parts and Chorus.

Final piano accompaniment section.

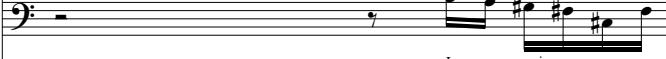
29

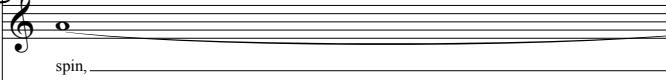
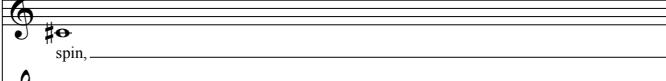
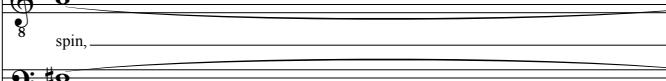
Solo Soprano (S solo) 
 Solo Tenor (T solo) 
 Bass (B solo) 

Soprano (S) 
 Alto (A) 
 Tenor (T) 
 Bass (B) 

29

Piano (Pno.) 

Soprano (S) 
 Tenor (T) 
 Bass (B) 

Soprano (S) 
 Alto (A) 
 Tenor (T) 
 Bass (B) 

Piano (Pno.) 

35

Solo Soprano (S solo) sings "spin a-round, I spin a-round, I spin," followed by piano accompaniment.

Solo Tenor (T solo) sings "spin a-round, I spin," followed by piano accompaniment.

Solo Bass (B solo) sings "round, I spin, spin," followed by piano accompaniment.

Chorus (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) sings "spin a-round, I spin, spin, spin a-round, I spin, spin, spin a-round, I spin, spin," followed by piano accompaniment.

Piano (Pno.) accompaniment consists of sixteenth-note patterns in 6/8 time.

Solo Soprano (S solo) sings "I spin, spin, I spin, spin, I spin, a -" followed by piano accompaniment.

Solo Tenor (T solo) sings "I spin, spin, I spin, spin, I spin, a -" followed by piano accompaniment.

Solo Bass (B solo) sings "I spin, spin, I spin, spin, I spin, a -" followed by piano accompaniment.

Chorus (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) sings "spin a-round, I spin, I spin, spin, spin a-round, I spin, I spin, spin, spin a-round, I spin, I spin, spin," followed by piano accompaniment.

Piano (Pno.) accompaniment consists of sixteenth-note patterns in 6/8 time.

Solo Soprano (S solo) round, spin, spin, spin, spin, spin, spin, spin,

Tenor (T solo) 8 round, spin, spin, spin, spin, spin, spin, spin,

Bass (B solo) round, spin, spin, spin, spin, spin, spin, spin,

Soprano (S) spin a-round, I spin, ————— I spin, spin, spin, a-round, spin a-

Alto (A) spin a-round, I spin, ————— I spin, spin, spin, a-round, spin a-

Tenor (T) 8 spin a-round, I spin, ————— I spin, spin, spin, a-round, spin a-

Bass (B) spin a-round, I spin, ————— I spin, spin, spin, a-round, spin a-

Piano (Pno.)

43

Soprano (S solo) spin a-round, —————

Tenor (T solo) 8 spin a-round, —————

Bass (B solo) spin a-round, —————

Soprano (S) round, And close my eyes, And let the bile a-rise from the

Alto (A) round, And close my eyes, And let the bile a-rise from the sa -

Tenor (T) 8 round, And close my eyes, And let the bile a-rise from the sa -

Bass (B) round, And close my eyes, And let the bile a-rise from the sa -

Piano (Pno.)

S A T B Pno.

measures 14-15: vocal parts sing "sa - cred re - gion of the soul's." The piano part consists of eighth and sixteenth-note patterns.

S A T B Pno.

measures 16-17: vocal parts sing "soul's pro - found, of the soul's pro -". The piano part shows a transition from G major to B-flat major.

52

A musical score for piano. The left hand (Pno.) plays eighth-note chords in the treble clef staff. The right hand plays sixteenth-note patterns in the bass clef staff. Measure 51 ends with a forte dynamic. Measure 52 begins with a piano dynamic (*p*) and features a sixteenth-note pattern in the bass staff.

Soprano (S): Then gaze _____ upon _____ the

Alto (A): Then gaze _____ upon _____ the

Tenor (T): Then gaze _____ upon _____ the
8

Bass (B): Then gaze _____ upon _____ the

Piano (Pno.):

Soprano (S) vocal line:

world; Then

Alto (A) vocal line:

world; Then

Tenor (T) vocal line:

world; Then

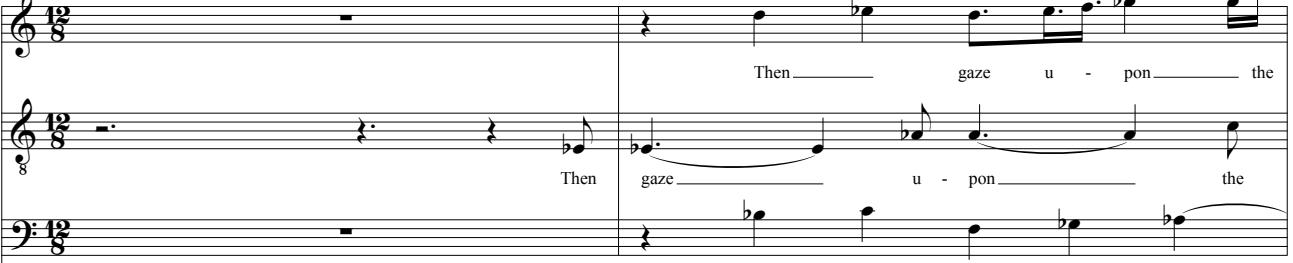
Bass (B) vocal line:

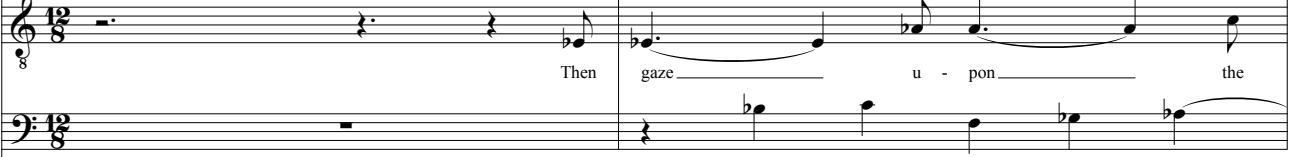
world; Then

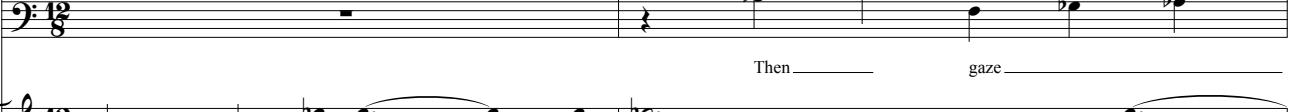
Piano (Pno.) accompaniment:

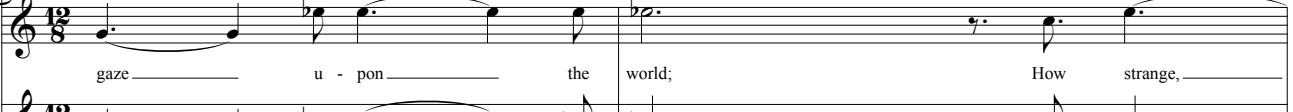
The piano part consists of two staves. The upper staff shows a continuous pattern of eighth-note chords in common time (4/4). The lower staff shows a pattern of quarter notes in common time (4/4).

57

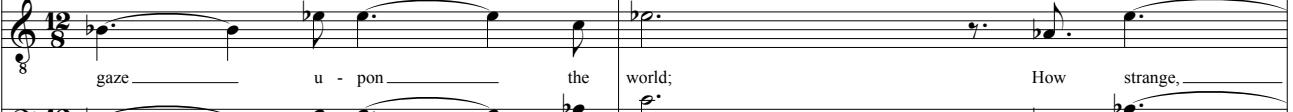
S solo 

T solo 

B solo 

S 

A 

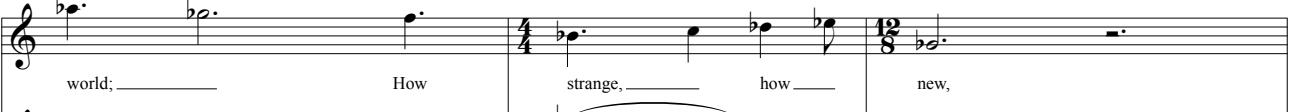
T 

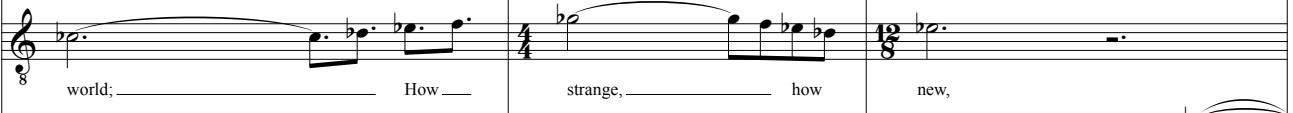
B 

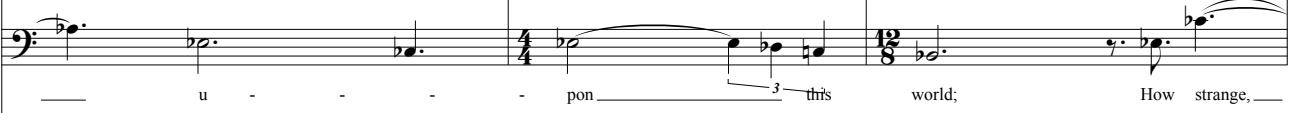
Pno. 

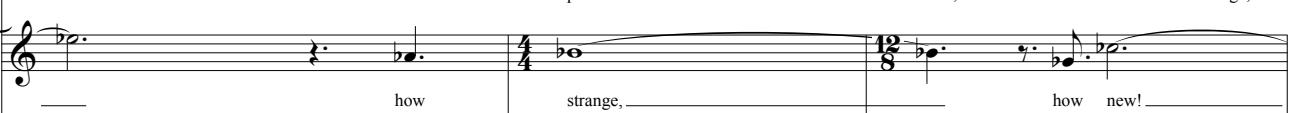
57

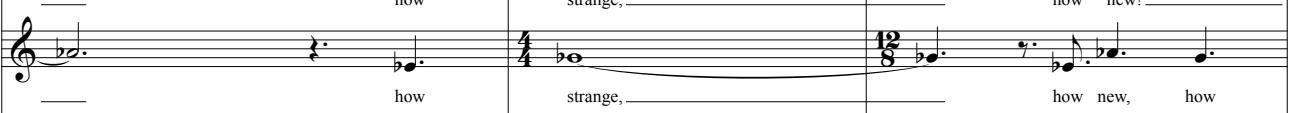
61

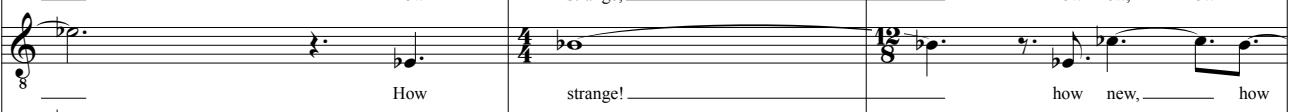
S solo 

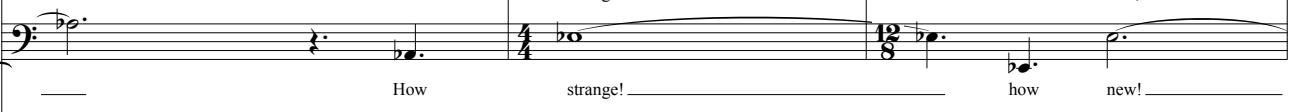
T solo 

B solo 

S 

A 

T 

B 

61

Pno. 

S solo

T solo

B solo

S

A

T

B

Pno.

66

S solo

T solo

B solo

S

A

T

B

Pno.

66

70

S solo and heaven are one,

T solo one, The ho - ri - zon line is gone,

B solo The ho -

S The ho - ri - zon -

A The ho - ri - zon - line is

T The ho - ri - zon - line is

B The ho - ri - zon line is gone, the ho - ri - zon

70

Pno.

S solo ri - - - zon line is gone,

T solo ri - - zon line is gone,

B solo ri - - - zon line is gone,

S line is gone,

A gone,

T gone,

B line is gone.

Pno.

76

T solo

S

A

T

B

The sky

The sky

The sky

The sky

76

Pno.

p

pp

T solo

S

A

T

B

Per - ple - xing i tems __ fade from

how green!

how green!

how green!

how green!

Pno.

bB:

bB:

bB:

bB:

bB:

bB:

T solo

my large view, And thought which vexed me

S the land

A the land

T the land

B the land

Pno.

T solo

with its false and true Is swallowed up, is swallowed, swallowed up

S how fair, _____

A how fair, _____

T how fair, _____

B how fair, _____

Pno.

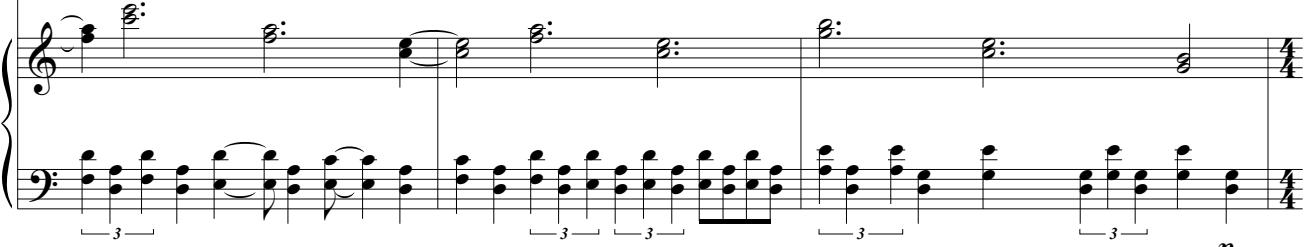
T solo in In - tu - i - tion; This, this __ is the true mode, the sole true mode of rea-ching

S how fair and blue! The

A how fair and blue! The

T how fair and blue! The

B how fair and blue! The

Pno. 

87

T solo God, And gai ning the u - ni-ver-sal syn - the-sis

S sky how green, the sky how green, the land how fair, the land how fair, how fair and

A sky how green, the sky how green, the land how fair, the land how fair, how fair and

T sky how green, the sky how green, the land how fair, the land how fair, how fair and

B sky _____ how green! _____

87

Pno. 

T solo

S
A
T
B

Pno.

95

T solo

S
A
T
B

Pno.

95

Pno.

104

Solo parts (S, T, B) sing "So round, and round, round" in 6/16 time. The vocal parts are in soprano, alto, and bass clefs respectively.

Solo parts (S, A, T, B) sing "and round a gain, so round, round" in 6/16 time. The vocal parts are in soprano, alto, tenor, and bass clefs respectively.

104

Piano part (Pno.) plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes in 6/16 time.

Solo parts (S, T, B) sing "a - gain, round a -" in 12/16 time. The vocal parts are in soprano, alto, and bass clefs respectively.

Solo parts (S, A, T, B) sing "round, round, round, so round" in 12/16 time. The vocal parts are in soprano, alto, tenor, and bass clefs respectively.

Piano part (Pno.) plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes in 12/16 time.

Solo Soprano (S solo) gains, round a - gain! How the
 Solo Tenor (T solo) gain, and round a - gain!
 Solo Bass (B solo) gain, and round a - gain!

Soprano (S) and round a gain, round, round,
 Alto (A) and round a gain, round, round,
 Tenor (T) and round a gain, round, round,
 Bass (B) and round a gain, round, round,

Piano (Pno.)

109

Solo Soprano (S solo) — whole globe — swells — wi - thin — my brain, —
 Solo Tenor (T solo) —
 Solo Bass (B solo) —

p

Solo Soprano (S) round, round, round, round, round,
 Solo Alto (A) round, round, round, round, round,
 Solo Tenor (T) so round, so round, round, round a - gain, round a-gain,
 Solo Bass (B) so round, so round, round, round a - gain, round a-gain,

109

Piano (Pno.)

114

Solo voices (Soprano, Tenor, Bass) sing the lyrics "The stars in - side my lids ap - pear, The" while the piano accompaniment provides harmonic support.

S round, round, a - *f* gain, round a - gain, a - gain round, round, round,
A round, round, a - *f* gain, round a - gain, a - gain round, round, round,
T 8 round, so round a - *f* gain, round a - gain, a - gain round, round, round,
B round, so round a - gain, round a - gain a - gain round, round, round,

114

Pno.

f

119

119

Pno.

The piano part consists of two staves. The top staff shows a series of eighth-note chords in G major (B, D, F#) followed by a dynamic marking *dim.* (diminuendo). The bottom staff shows sustained notes on the first three strings, with the dynamic *p* (piano) indicated above the staff.

Solo parts: S solo, T solo, B solo; Chorus: S, A, T, B; Piano (Pno.)

Measure 125: The vocal parts sing "each ear;" while the piano provides harmonic support.

Measure 126: The vocal parts sing "a-gain!" while the piano provides harmonic support.

Measure 126: The vocal parts sing "Ah _____ peace _____ di - vine," while the piano provides harmonic support.

Measure 127: The vocal parts sing "Right in my na - vel I can feel" three times, while the piano provides harmonic support.

Measure 128: The vocal parts sing "like a continuo part, if desired" while the piano provides harmonic support.

S solo bliss dear — and deep, —

S — The cen - - - tre of — the world's great —

A — The cen - - - tre of — the world's great — wheel.

T 8 — The cen - - - tre of — the world's great — wheel.

B — The cen - - - tre of — the world's great —

Pno. *pp*

136

S solo No stay, no stop, Like a - ny top Whir - ling

S wheel.

A

T 8

B wheel.

136

Pno. *3*

140

S solo with swif - test speed I sleep.

S O ye _____ de-vout ones round me

A O ye de - vout ones

T O ye _____ de -

B O ye _____ de -

Pno. { *pp*

140

S co - ming. Lis - ten, lis - ten, lis -

A round me co - ming, Lis - ten, lis - ten, lis -

T vout ones round me co - ming, Lis - ten, lis - ten!

B vout ones round me co - ming, Lis - ten, lis - ten!

Pno. {

S - ten! I think that I am hum - ming; 4
 A - ten! I think that I am hum - ming; 4
 T - 8 I think that I am hum - ming; 4
 B - b I think that I am hum - ming; 4

Pno.

148

Pno.

Pno.

Pno.

Pno.

Pno.

158

B solo

No, _____

158

B solo

no, _____ no, _____ no, _____

B solo

no, no ut - - - te-rance of the

B solo

ser - vile mind With poor _____

B solo

chop - lo - gic rules a - gree - ing

Pno.

B solo

Here shall ye find,

12

Pno.

12

169

B solo

But, but,

Pno.

169

B solo

but, but in - ar - ti - cu-late burr,

Pno.

p

B solo in - ar - ti - cu - late burr _____ of man's un - sun - dered be -

Pno. { cresc.

175

B solo ing. Ah,

Pno. { **175**

B solo ah, _____ could we but de - vice some plan, could we but de-vise some

Pno. {

183

B solo plan, Some pa-tent jack by which a man Might hold him - self e - ver in

S { and,

A { and,

T { and,

B { and,

183**185**

and,

Pno. {

189

B solo

har - mo ny,
e - ver _____
in har - mo - ny _____
and
and
and
spin,

189

Pno.

195

B solo

With _____ the _____ great _____ whole,

S
A
T
B

spin,
spin,
and spin per -
spin,
and
spin,

192

Pno.

195

Solo Soprano (S solo) and Solo Tenor (T solo) sing "and spin, and spin" in measures 201-202. Basso Soprano (B solo) enters with a sustained note in measure 202.

In measure 203, the vocal parts sing "pe-tu-al-ly, As all things spin," followed by "and spin per-pe-tu-al-ly," and finally "and spin, _____". The piano accompaniment consists of eighth-note chords.

203

In measure 204, the vocal parts sing "per-pe-tu-al-ly," "and spin per-pe-tu-al-ly," and "and spin per-pe-tu-al-ly, As spin, _____". The piano accompaniment continues with eighth-note chords.

Measures 201, 203, and 204 are shown again, with the piano accompaniment providing harmonic support.

Solo parts: S solo, T solo, B solo.

Chorus parts: S, A, T, B.

Piano part: Pno.

Text lyrics:

- all things spin,
- and
- spin perpe - tual - ly,
- As all things spin,
- As all things spin,

209

Solo parts: S solo, T solo, B solo.

Chorus parts: S, A, T, B.

Piano part: Pno.

Text lyrics:

- As all things spin,
- spin perpe - tual - ly, spin perpe - tual - ly, and spin perpe - tual - ly,
- and spin perpe - tual - ly, As all things spin, and spin,
- and spin, and spin perpe - tual - ly,
- and spin, and spin perpe - tual - ly,

209

Piano part: Pno.

217

Solo Soprano (S solo) sings "as all things spin," Solo Tenor (T solo) sings "as all things spin," Bass Solo (B solo) sings "As all things spin,"

Mezzo-Soprano (M) and Alto (A) sing "With - out, ____ with - in, ____ and spin ____ per -"

Piano (Pno.) accompaniment: A series of eighth-note chords in a repeating pattern.

Solo Soprano (S solo) sings "With - out, ____ with - in, ____ and spin ____ per - pe - tual - ly, ____ spin ____ per - pe - tual - ly,"

Solo Tenor (T solo) sings "With - in, ____ As all things spin, ____ and all things spin, ____ and

Piano (Pno.) accompaniment: A series of eighth-note chords in a repeating pattern.

Solo Soprano (S solo) sings "With - out, ____ with - in, ____ and spin ____ per - pe - tual - ly, ____ spin ____ per - pe - tual - ly,"

Solo Tenor (T solo) sings "With - in, ____ As all things spin, ____ and all things spin, ____ and

Piano (Pno.) accompaniment: A series of eighth-note chords in a repeating pattern.

S solo

T solo

B solo

S

A

T

B

Pno.

and spin per - pe - tual-ly, and spin per - pe - tual - ly, As all things spin, With-out, with - in,
With - out, with - in, with - out, with - in,
and spin per - pe - tual-ly, As all things spin,
spin per - pe - tual-ly, spin per - pe - tual-ly, Wi - thout, wi - thin,

227

S solo

T solo

B solo

With - out, with - in, with - out, with - in, spin, per - pe - tual - ly,
With - out, with - in,

S

A

T

B

as all things, all things spin,
as all things spin, as all things spin,
spin per - pe - tual-ly, spin per - pe - tual-ly, as
and spin, as

227

Pno.

233

Solo Soprano (S solo) sings "as all things spin," Solo Tenor (T solo) sings "with in," Solo Bass (B solo) sings "and spin per - pe - tual-ly," Alto (A) sings "As all things spin," and Piano (Pno.) provides harmonic support.

233

Piano (Pno.) provides harmonic support.

Solo Soprano (S solo) sings "and spin per - pe - tual-ly," Solo Tenor (T solo) sings "all things, as all things, all things spin," Solo Bass (B solo) sings "all things spin, as all things spin," Alto (A) sings "spin, and spin per - pe - tual-ly, spin per - pe - tual-ly, spin per - pe - tual-ly," and Piano (Pno.) provides harmonic support.

233

Piano (Pno.) provides harmonic support.

240

Solo parts (S, T, B) sing:

- spin _____ per - pe - tual - ly,
- and spin _____ per - pe - - - tual - ly,
- and spin _____ per - pe - - - tual - ly,
- and spin _____ per - pe - tual - ly,
- spin _____ per - pe - tual - ly, As all things
- spin, with - out, all things
- spin, all things
- pe - tual - ly, spin _____ per - pe - tual - ly, and spin _____ per -
- as all things spin, With - in, with - out, with - in, with -

Pno. accompaniment consists of sustained chords.

245

Solo parts (S, T, B) sing:

-
-
-
-
- And Space _____ in - to -
- And Space _____ in - to -
- spin, with - - - in, As Time spins _____ off -
- spin, spin, As Time spins off -
- pe - tual - ly, spin _____ per - pe - tual - ly,
- out, As Time spins off -

Pno. accompaniment consists of sustained chords.

Solo Soprano (S solo) Solo Tenor (T solo) Bassoon (B solo)

Soprano (S) Alto (A) Tenor (T) Bassoon (B)

Piano (Pno.)

249

Solo Soprano (S solo) Solo Tenor (T solo) Bassoon (B solo)

Soprano (S) Alto (A) Tenor (T) Bassoon (B)

Piano (Pno.)

249

254

S solo fi - - ni - ty,
T solo fi - - ni - ty,
B solo fi - - ni - ty,

S ni - ty, Spin,
A ni - ty, Spin,
T ni - ty, E - ter - ni - ty, Spin,
B ni - ty, E - ter - ni - ty, Spin,

Pno.

254

Solo Soprano (S solo) Solo Tenor (T solo) Bassoon (B solo)

Soprano (S) Alto (A) Tenor (T) Bassoon (B)

Piano (Pno.)

Measure 262: The vocal parts (S, T, B) sing 'spin,'. The piano part consists of eighth-note chords.

Measure 263: The vocal parts (S, T, B) sing 'spin,'. The piano part consists of eighth-note chords.

263

Solo Soprano (S solo) Solo Tenor (T solo) Bassoon (B solo)

Soprano (S) Alto (A) Tenor (T) Bassoon (B)

Piano (Pno.)

Measure 263: The vocal parts (S, T, B) sing 'spin.'. The piano part consists of eighth-note chords.