

SATB

Under the Holly-Bough

\$2.50

Under the Holly-Bough

Music by
Christopher Alexander

Solo and SATB, a cappella

cantareworks

THE MUSIC OF CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

About the Work

This tranquil setting of Charles Mackay's poem brings a welcoming spirit to all listeners, inviting everyone to come together and celebrate each other during the Christmas season. Feature your soloist as they sing over the accompanying choir. This beautiful work will be a standout at your next concert.

*Ye who have scorned each other,
Or injured friend or brother,
In this fast-fading year;
Ye who, by word or deed,
Have made a kind heart bleed,
Come gather here!*

*Let sinned against and sinning
Forget their strife's beginning,
And join in friendship now.
Be links no longer broken,
Be sweet forgiveness spoken
Under the Holly-Bough.*

*Ye who have loved each other,
Sister and friend and brother,
In this fast-fading year:
Mother and sire and child,
Young man and maiden mild,
Come gather here;*

*And let your heart grow fonder,
As memory shall ponder
Each past unbroken vow;
Old loves and younger wooing
Are sweet in the renewing
Under the Holly-Bough.*

*Ye who have nourished sadness,
Estranged from hope and gladness
In this fast-fading year;
Ye with overburdened mind,
Made aches from your kind,
Come gather here.*

*Let not the useless sorrow
Pursue you night and morrow,
If e'er you hoped, hope now.
Take heart,— uncloud your faces,
And join in our embraces
Under the Holly-Bough.*

— Charles Mackay
(1814-1889)

About the Composer



Mr. Christopher Alexander is an award-winning composer and arranger from St. Joseph, Missouri. He received his Bachelor of Science in Vocal Music Education degree from Missouri Western State University in 2009. A self-taught pianist, his compositions and arrangements ranging from instrumental works to vocal solo and choral literature. Mr. Alexander has been commissioned numerous times by singing groups and church choirs within the northwest Missouri and northeast Kansas regions. He is also active in musical theatre productions as a music director and pianist. His works have been published with GIA Music Publications, Hal Leonard, and Excelcia Music Publishing.

In 2016, he was awarded the St. Joseph Allied Arts Council Mayor's Award for Artist of the Year. In 2023, he was inducted into the New Generation Singers Hall of Fame.

Mr. Alexander currently serves as the pianist and primary arranger for The New Generation Singers, a Christian singing youth group based in St. Joseph, Missouri. He is a member of NAfME, ACDA, MCDA, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity.

He is available for commissions and conducting events on request.

UNDER THE HOLLY-BOUGH

Solo and SATB, a cappella

Words by
CHARLES MACKAY (1814-1889)

Music by
CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

Lento tranquillo e espressivo (♩ = c. 52)

mp Sing on repeat only

SOLO

Ye who have scorned each oth - er, Or in - jured friend or bro - ther,

SOPRANO

mp Sing both times

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

ALTO

mp Sing both times

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

TENOR

mp Sing both times

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

BASS

mp Sing both times

Loo Loo Loo Loo

5

In this fast - fa - ding year; _____

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

Under the Holly Bough

9

Ye who, by word or deed, Have made a kind heart bleed,

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

13

(Solo tacet to m. 65)

Come ga - ther here! Come ga - ther here!

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

Under the Holly Bough

17

Let sinned a - gainst and sin - ning For - get their strife's be - gin - ning,

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

21

And join in friend - ship now.

Loo Join in friend - ship now. Loo

Loo Join in friend - ship now. Loo Loo

Loo Join in friend - ship now. Loo

mf *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

25

Be lins no long - er bro - ken, Be sweet for - give - nes spo - ken

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

Under the Holly Bough

29

Un - der the Hol - ly Bough, Un - der the Hol - ly Bough.

Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo Loo

Loo Loo Loo

Loo Loo

33 Poco con brio (♩ = c. 58)

mf *espress.*

Ye who have loved each oth - er, Sis - ter and friend and bro - ther,

mf *espress.*

Ye who have loved each oth - er, Sis - ter and friend and bro - ther,

37

mf *espress.*

In this fast - fa - ding —

mf *espress.*

In this fast - ding —

In this fast - ing — year: —

In this fast - ing year: —

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41

year. Mo-ther, sire, and child, Young man and maid - en

year. Mo-ther, sire, and child, Young man and maid - en

8 Mo - ther and _____ sire _____ and child, Young _____ man _____ and maid - en mild,

Mo - ther _____ sire _____ and child, Young _____ man _____ and maid _____ en mild,

45

mild, *mp* Oh, *mf* Come ga - ther here. _____

mild, *mp* Oh, *mf* Come ga - ther here. _____

8 Come gath - er here, Oh, Come ga - ther here. _____

mp *mf*

Come gath - er here, Come gath - er

49

bravura

And let your heart grow fon - der As mem - o - ry shall pon - der

bravura

And let your heart grow fon - der, As mem - o - ry shall pon - der

bravura

8 And let your heart grow fon - der, As mem - o - ry shall pon - der

bravura

here. _____

Under the Holly Bough

53

f

Each past un - bro - ken vow;

f

Each past un - bro - ken vow;

f

8 Each past un - bro - ken vow;

f

Each past un - bro - ken vow; Old

57

Old loves and young - er woo - ing Are sweet in the re - new - ing

Old loves and young - er woo - ing Are sweet in the re - new - ing

8 Old loves and young - er woo - ing Are sweet in the re - new - ing

loves Are sweet

61

decresc. *rit.*

Un - der the Hol - ly-Bough, Un - der the Hol - ly-Bough.

decresc. *rit.*

Un - der the Hol - ly-Bough, Un - der the Hol - ly-Bough.

decresc. *rit.*

8 Un - der the Hol - ly-Bough, Un - der the Hol - ly-Bough.

decresc. *rit.*

Un - der the Hol - ly-Bough, the Hol - ly-Bough.