

SATB

My Love Must Be as Free (Free Love)

\$2.25

Christopher Alexander

My Love Must
Be as Free
(Free Love)

SATB and Piano
with opt. Oboe (or C-Instrument)

cantareworks

THE MUSIC OF CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

About the Work

Henry David Thoreau created such poetry over the yearz with vivid imagery and endless hopefulness. These sentiments have been musically set here for mixed chorus and an optional oboe or other C-instrument. Lyrical voice leading and easy harmonizations make this work appropriate for middle and beginning high school choruses.

*My love must be as free
As is the eagle's wing,
Hovering o'er land and sea
And everything.*

*I must not dim my eye
In thy saloon,
I must not leave my sky
And nightly moon.*

*Be not the jeweler's net
Which stays my flight,
And craftily is set
To capture the sight.*

*But be the favoring gale
That bears me on,
And still doth fill my sail
When thou art gone.*

*I cannot leave my sky
For thy caprice,
True love would soar as high
As heaven is.*

*The eagle would not brook
Her mate thus won,
Who trained his eye to look
Beneath the sun.*

—Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862)

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.

MY LOVE MUST BE AS FREE

(Free Love)

SATB and Piano with opt. Oboe (or C-Instrument)

Words by
HENRY DAVID THOREAU

Music by
CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

Moderately, with warmth (♩ = c. 76-80)

SOPRANO
ALTO

TENOR
BASS

Moderately, with warmth (♩ = c. 76-80)

Play cue notes in absence of oboe instrument

Oboe

PIANO.

mp

mp

5

rit. *mp unis.*

rit. My

5

rit.

Pedal harmonically

Oboe (C-Instrument) part score on page 11.

My Love Must Be as Free (Free Love)

9

a tempo
mp *unis.*

love must be as free As is the ea - gle's wing, Hov-'ring

a tempo

9

(-Ob.)

a tempo

13

o'er land and sea And — ev - ry - thing. I must

mp *unis.*

13

17

not dim my eye In thy — sa - loon, I must

unis.

17

21

not leave my sky And night - ly moon. Be

21

(+Ob.)

25

not the fowler's net Which stays my flight, And

25

not the fow-ler's net Which

29

craft - i ly is set To al - lure the sight. Be

29

My Love Must Be as Free (Free Love)

33

not the fow-ler's net Which stays — my flight, And

33

not the fow-ler's net Which lude

37

craft - i - ly is set — To al - lure — the sight. *rit.*

37

rit.

41

a tempo

41

mp a tempo

Please note in absence of oboe/C-instrument