

Commissioned by the Knox College Choir - Galesburg, IL
Dr. Laura Lane, Director of Choirs

Take Me to the Water

For SATB and Piano*

Performance Time: Approx. 3:45

Words and Music by
ROLLO DILWORTH
Additional Lyrics from
African-American Spirituals

With a rhythmic bounce (\downarrow = ca. 80)

The musical score consists of six staves. The top staff is for the Piano, marked *f*. The second staff is for the Soprano, the third for Alto, and the fourth for Tenor. The fifth staff is for Bass, and the bottom staff is for Unis. S/A. The vocal parts sing in four-part harmony. The piano part provides harmonic support with eighth-note chords. The vocal entries are marked with dynamic instructions like *mf* and *mf*. The lyrics are integrated into the music, appearing below the notes. The score is set in common time, with a key signature of one flat.

Piano

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Unis. S/A

Take me to the wa - ter. Take me to the sea.
Take me. Take me.

Take me to the riv - er so that my spir - it can be free. Gon-na
so that my spir - it can be free.

† All open octaves can be played 8vb

Unis. S/A

The musical score consists of six systems of music. The top system shows the soprano and alto parts for measures 1-4, with lyrics "lay my bur - dens down," "down by the riv-er - side.. Gon-na" and "Down by, down by". The second system continues the soprano and alto parts. The third system adds tenor and bass parts, with lyrics "wade in the wa - ter, the wa-ter that flows both deep and wide. Oh," and "the wa-ter that flows both deep and wide.". The fourth system continues the soprano, alto, tenor, and bass parts. The fifth system begins with a forte dynamic (f) and lyrics "take me, take me, take me to the wa - ter." It features a vocal division for soprano and alto, and a bass entry. The sixth system concludes with a dynamic marking of *mp*.

lay my bur - dens down,
down by the riv-er - side.. Gon-na

Down by, down by

wade in the wa - ter, the wa-ter that flows both deep and wide. Oh,

the wa-ter that flows both deep and wide.

f take me, take me, take me to the wa - ter.
Sop. div. Soprano
Alto
Tenor
Bass
mp

1. Gon-na
2. Gon-na

13

cresc.

Down by the riv - er - side.

lay down my bur - den, down by _____ the riv - er - side. Down

lay down my sword and shield, down by _____ the riv - er - side. Down

13

mp cresc.

14

mf cresc.

Down by the riv - er - side. Down by the riv - er - side.

cresc. f mp

by _____ the riv - er - side. Down by _____ the riv - er - side. Gon-na

by _____ the riv - er - side. Down by _____ the riv - er - side. Gon-na

15

mf cresc. f

cresc.

Down by the riv - er - side. Oh,

lay down my bur - den, down by _____ the riv - er - side. Oh,

lay down my sword and shield, down by _____ the riv - er - side. Oh,

17

mp cresc.

TAKE ME TO THE WATER – SATB

Soprano *f* A A A A A Sop. div.

Alto take me, take me, take me to the wa - ter.

Tenor

Bass

19

21 Soprano
Alto
Tenor *p*

Bass *mp*

Wade in the, wade in the, wade in the wa - ter, chil - dren.

Wade in the wa - ter.

21

Wade in the, wade in the, wade in the wa - ter, chil - dren.

Wade in the wa - ter, chil - dren.

23

Wade in the, wade in the, wade in the wa - ter, chil - dren.

Wade in the wa - ter.

25

mf

God's a - gon - na trou - ble the wa - ter.

mf

God's a - gon - na trou - ble the wa - ter.

mf

cresc.

Soprano Alto Tenor Bass

f

Oh, oh, oh!

f

f

TAKE ME TO THE WATER – SATB

30

Take me to the wa - ter! Take me to the sea!

30

Take me to the wa - ter! Set my spir - it free! Oh!

32

Take me to the wa - ter! Take me to the sea!

simile

Wade!

Wade in the

34

simile

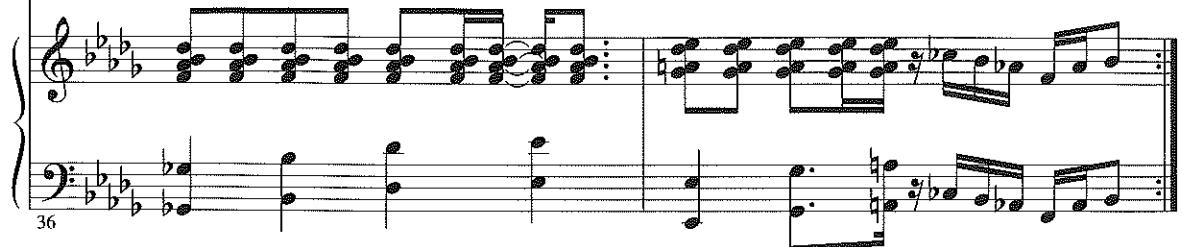
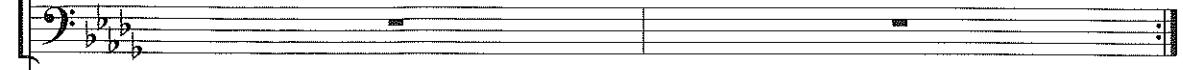
TAKE ME TO THE WATER – SATB

Take me to the wa - ter! Set my spir - it free!

Oh! _____

wa - ter, chil - dren_ and set my spir - it free!

Oh! _____



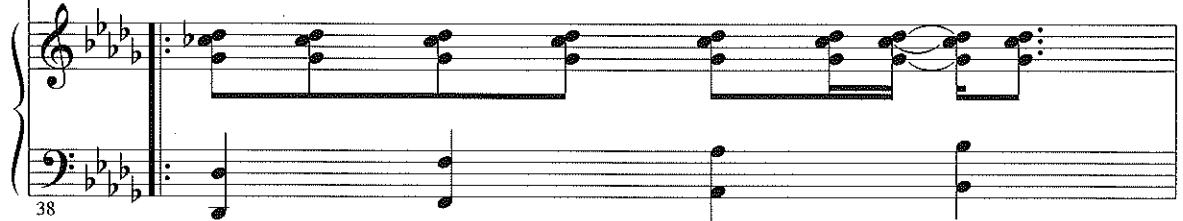
Take me to the wa - ter!

simile

Wade!

Unis.

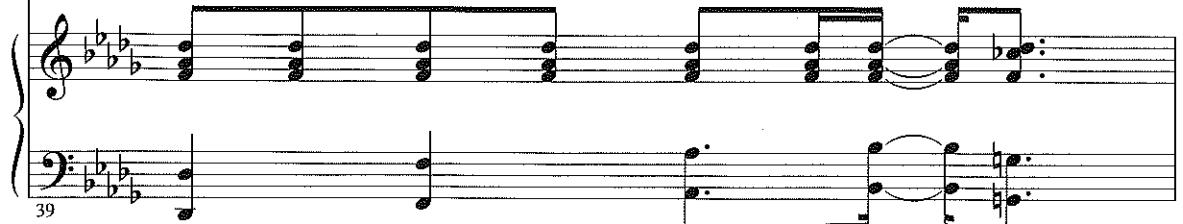
Down by the riv - er - side. Down by the riv - er - side.



Take me to the sea!

Wade in the

Down by the riv - er - side. Down by the riv - er - side.



TAKE ME TO THE WATER – SATB

10

Take me to the wa - ter!

Set my spir-it free!

Oh!—

wa - ter, chil - dren and

set my spir-it free!

Oh!—

Down by the riv-er-side. Down by the ri-ver-side, I'll set my spir-it free!

Oh!—

{ 40 }

Sop. div. A A A A A A Sop. div.

Take me, take me, take me to the wa - ter! Oh!—

Unis.

{ 42 }

Sop. div. A A A A A A Sop. div.

Take me, take me, take me to the wa - ter! Oh!—

Unis.

{ 44 }

TAKE ME TO THE WATER – SATB