

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 ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 80$)

Piano

Soprano
Alto
Tenor
Bass

3

mf

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

Take me. Take me.

mf

Unis. S/A

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

so that my spir - it can be free.

mf

† All open octaves can be played *8vb*



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,

Soprano
Alto
Tenor
Bass

the wa - ter that flows both deep and wide.

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

Sop. div.
Soprano
Alto
Tenor
Bass

f *f* *mp*

- 1. Gon-na
- 2. Gon-na

13

cresc.

Down by the riv - er - side.

cresc. *mf*

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

mp *cresc.*

13

mf cresc. *f*

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

mf *cresc.* *f*

15

cresc.

Down by the riv - er - side. Oh,

cresc.

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,

mp *cresc.*

17

Soprano *f* Δ Δ Δ Δ Δ Δ Sop. div.
 Alto
 Tenor
 Bass

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

f Δ Δ Δ Δ Δ Δ

19

21 Soprano
 Alto
 Tenor

p

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

Bass *mp*

Wade in the wa - ter.

mp

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. *cresc.*

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

27

f Soprano *f* Oh, oh, oh!

f Alto

f Tenor

Bass

29

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 wa - ter! Set my spir - it free! Oh! —
 wa - ter, chil - dren and set my spir - it free! Oh! —

36

Take me to the wa - ter!
simile Wade!

Unis. ^A

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

38

Take me to the sea!
 Wade in the

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

39

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! —

Sop. div. Take me, take me, take me to the wa - ter! Oh! —
 Unis.

Sop. div. Take me, take me, take me to the wa - ter! Oh! —
 Unis.