

Commissioned by and with thanks to Cappella Clausura and Amelia LeClair

# PSALM 5 (Hearken to My Child's Cry)\*

O, hearken to my child's cry  
At dawn, early in the morning, you hear my child's voice.  
Hold them, for I fear those who wish them harm.  
At dawn, early in the morning, you hear my child's voice.

Adapted from *The Psalter*,  
*The Book of Common Prayer*

Music by Patricia Van Ness (1951)  
Score rev. 9 July 2020  
\*from *MUSIC FOR THE PSALMS*,  
dedicated in its entirety to Peter Sykes

Note to strings: marked bowings optional.

The musical score is for Psalm 5 (Hearken to My Child's Cry) in G major, 4/4 time, with a tempo of quarter note = 76. The Soprano Solo part begins with a whole note rest for three measures, followed by a whole note G4, a whole note A4, and a whole note B4. The lyrics "O, O, O," are written below the notes. The string parts (Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, and Violoncello) all begin with a dynamic of *f* and play a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes and eighth notes. Each string part includes the instruction "Use open strings and 1st position wherever possible senza vibrato". The dynamic for the strings is marked *mf* for the second measure and *f* for the first and third measures.

*Psalm 5 (Hearken to My Child's Cry)*

is one of a ten-psalm collection of anthems composed for children separated from their parents along U.S. borders, and for lost children everywhere. This collection of ten psalms is entitled *Child of the Borerlands*



Van Ness, Psalm 5 (Hearken to My Child's Cry)

26 **A**

S. Solo cry. **A** At dawn ear - ly in the

Vln. 1 *legato*

Vln. 2 *legato*

Vla. *legato*

Vc. *legato*

32

S. Solo morn - ing, you hear, hear my ch'ld's voice, *v*

Vln. 1 *v* *f*

Vln. 2 *cresc. f*

Vla. *cresc. f*

Vc. *cresc. f*

38 **B** *mf* = 80

S. Solo you hear, hear my ch'ld's voice. **B** Hold, = 80

Vln. 1 *mf*

Vln. 2 *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Van Ness, Psalm 5 (Hearken to My Child's Cry)

4 44

S. Solo

hold, O hold, hold them,

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

50

S. Solo

for I fear, those

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

b. 52 4th beat & 53-54 are not staccato

56

S. Solo

who wish, wish them harm,

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

b. 60 4th beat no staccato

*cresc.* **f**

b. 60 4th beat no staccato

*cresc.* **f**

b. 60 4th beat no staccato

*cresc.* **f**

b. 60 4th beat no staccato

*cresc.* **f**

Van Ness, Psalm 5 (Hearken to My Child's Cry)

C

62

S. Solo wish them harm. At dawn

Vln. 1 *mf*

Vln. 2 *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

69

S. Solo ear - ly in the morn - ing, you hear,

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

74

S. Solo hear my ch'ld's voice, you hear,

Vln. 1 *f* *mf*

Vln. 2 *cresc. f* *mf*

Vla. *cresc. f* *mf*

Vc. *cresc. f* *mf*

Van Ness, Psalm 5 (Hearken to My Child's Cry)

6

80

*rit.* . . . . .

S. Solo

hear my ch'ld's voice.

*rit.* . . . . .

Vln. 1

*mp*

Vln. 2

*mp*

Vla.

*mp*

Vc.

solo cello

*mp*