

Take Counsel Together

with text by

'Abdu'l-Bahá/_{jth}

John Thomas Higgins

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"Take coun - sel to - ge - ther in such wise _____ that no oc -

cas - ion for ill - feel - ing or dis - cord may a - rise." "Should the least trace of e -

strange - ment pre - vail, _____ the re - sult shall be dark - ness u - pon dark - ness." _

The musical score is written for a voice and piano. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into three systems. The first system (measures 1-6) shows the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The second system (measures 7-12) continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The third system (measures 13-18) concludes the piece with a final cadence. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody. The lyrics are written below the vocal line, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures.

20

— Turn to the King - dom on high _____ and ask aid from the

This system contains measures 20 through 25. The vocal line begins with a whole rest in measure 20, followed by a series of eighth notes in measures 21-22, and then a long note with a fermata in measure 23. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand. Measure 25 ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

26

Realm of Glor - y." "Speak _____ with cour-te - sy _____ care _____

This system contains measures 26 through 31. The vocal line starts with a half note in measure 26, followed by eighth notes in measures 27-28, and then a long note with a fermata in measure 29. The piano accompaniment continues with eighth-note patterns and chords. Measure 31 ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

32

_____ and mod-er - a - tion." _____ Ex-press free-ly your o - pin - ion _____

This system contains measures 32 through 37. The vocal line begins with a half note in measure 32, followed by eighth notes in measures 33-34, and then a long note with a fermata in measure 35. The piano accompaniment features a consistent eighth-note bass line and chords. Measure 37 ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

38

_____ but don't in - sist that you are right. _____ "Not un - til

This system contains measures 38 through 43. The vocal line starts with a half note in measure 38, followed by eighth notes in measures 39-40, and then a long note with a fermata in measure 41. The piano accompaniment continues with eighth-note patterns and chords. Measure 43 ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

44

musical score for measures 44-49. The system consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are: "matters are fully discussed can the right way the right way". The piano accompaniment is in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with the same key signature. It features a steady eighth-note bass line and a treble line with chords and moving lines.

matters are_ ful - ly dis cussed can the right way_ the right way_

50

musical score for measures 50-55. The system consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line has a repeat sign at measure 52. The lyrics are: "be revealed." "The shining spark of truth cometh forth". The piano accompaniment continues with the same texture as the previous system.

_ be rev - ealed." "The shin-ing spark of truth com-eth forth_

56

musical score for measures 56-61. The system consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line has a repeat sign at measure 59. The lyrics are: "on ly af-ter the clash of dif-fer-ing o - pin - ions." The piano accompaniment continues with the same texture.

_ on - ly_ af-ter the clash of dif-fer-ing o - pin - ions."_

62

musical score for measures 62-67. The system consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line has a first ending bracket (1.) and a second ending bracket (2.). The lyrics are: "The 'What-so - e - ver thing is ar - ranged in har-mon". The piano accompaniment continues with the same texture.

_ "The "What-so - e - ver thing is ar - ranged_ in har-mon

68

y_____ and with love and pur-i - ty of mot - ive,_____ its re-

74

sult, its re - sult is light,_____

78

light."_____ its re - light."_____

44: The members thereof must take counsel together in such wise that no occasion for ill-feeling or discord may arise. This can be attained when every member expresseth with absolute freedom his own opinion and setteth forth his argument. Should anyone oppose, he must on no account feel hurt for not until matters are fully discussed can the right way be revealed. The shining spark of truth cometh forth only after the clash of differing opinions. If after discussion, a decision be carried unanimously well and good; but if, the Lord forbid, differences of opinion should arise, a majority of voices must prevail.

45: The first condition is absolute love and harmony ...

They must, when coming together, turn their faces to the Kingdom on high and ask aid from the Realm of Glory. They must then proceed with the utmost devotion, courtesy, dignity, care and moderation to express their views. ...

In short, whatsoever thing is arranged in harmony and with love and purity of motive, its result is light, and should the least trace of estrangement prevail the result shall be darkness upon darkness...