

# If It Be Thy Pleasure

S.S.A.A., a cappella

If it be Thy pleasure,  
make me to grow as a tender herb  
in the meadows of Thy grace.

As a tender herb,  
may the gentle winds  
of Thy will stir me up  
and bend me into conformity  
with Thy pleasure.  
If it be Thy pleasure, so may I grow.

So may my movement  
and my stillness  
be wholly directed by Thee,  
be wholly directed by Thee.

If it be Thy pleasure,  
make me to grow as a tender herb  
in the meadows of Thy grace,  
that the gentle winds  
of Thy will may stir me up  
and bend me into conformity  
with Thy pleasure,  
in such wise that my movement  
and my stillness  
may be wholly directed by Thee.

*Prayers and Meditations of Bahá u lláh, page 240*



(approx. 4' 00")

dedicated to the Ladder for the Soul Choir

based on the writings of  
Bahá'u'lláh

# If It Be Thy Pleasure

David Nelson Miller

S.S.A.A., a cappella

(2012, ASCAP)

1  $\text{♩} = \text{approx. } 108$

Soprano 1 *p* so may I grow, —

Soprano 2 *p* So may I grow, so may I grow,

Alto 1 *p* So may I grow, so may I grow,

Alto 2 *p* So may I grow, so may I grow,

rehearsal keyboard  $\text{♩} = \text{approx. } 108$  *p*

5 *p* so may I — grow. *pp* ,

S 2 so may I grow, so may I — grow. *pp* ,

A 1 so may I grow, so may I — grow. *pp* ,

A 2 so may I grow, so may I — grow. *pp* ,

*pp* ,

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10 **A** *mp*

S 1  
If it be Thy pleas - ure, make me to grow as a

S 2  
If it be Thy pleas - ure, make me to grow as a

A 1  
If it be Thy pleas - ure, make me to grow as a

A 2  
If it be Thy pleas - ure, make me to grow as a

**A** *mp*

16

S 1  
ten - der herb in the mead - ows of Thy grace. \_\_\_\_\_ As a

S 2  
ten - der herb in the mead - ows of Thy grace. \_\_\_\_\_ As a

A 1  
ten - der herb in the mead - ows of Thy grace. \_\_\_\_\_ As a

A 2  
ten - der herb in the mead - ows of Thy grace. \_\_\_\_\_ As a

22 **B**

S 1 ten - der herb, may the gen - tle winds of Thy will stir me up — and *no breath*

S 2 ten - der herb, may the gen - tle winds of Thy will stir me up — and *no breath*

A 1 ten - der herb, may the gen - tle winds of Thy will stir me up — and *no breath*

A 2 ten - der herb, may the gen - tle winds of Thy will stir me up — and *no breath*

28

S 1 bend me in - to con - form - i - ty with Thy pleas - ure. ☺ , *rit.*

S 2 bend me in - to con - form - i - ty with Thy pleas - ure. ☺ , *rit.*

A 1 bend me in - to con - form - i - ty with Thy pleas - ure. ☺ , *rit.*

A 2 bend me in - to con - form - i - ty with Thy pleas - ure. ☺ , *rit.*

☺ = If you're in tune, smile.

34 **C** a tempo

S 1 If it be Thy pleas - ure, so may I

S 2 If it be Thy pleas - ure, so may I

A 1 If it be Thy pleas - ure, so may I

A 2 If it be Thy pleas - ure, so may I

40

S 1 grow, \_\_\_\_\_ so may I grow. So may my

S 2 grow, \_\_\_\_\_ so may I grow. So may my

A 1 grow, \_\_\_\_\_ so may I grow. So may my

A 2 grow, \_\_\_\_\_ so may I grow. So may my

46 **D**

S 1 *(p)*  
 move - ment — and my still - ness be whol - ly di - rect - ed by  
 (deh)\*

S 2  
 move - ment — and my still - ness be whol - ly di - rect - ed by  
 (deh)\*

A 1  
 move - ment — and my still - ness be whol - ly di - rect - ed by  
 (deh)\*

A 2  
 move - ment — and my still - ness be whol - ly di - rect - ed by  
 (deh)\*

**D**

52 *(p)* *pp*

S 1  
 Thee, ————— be whol - ly di - rect - ed by Thee. So may my  
 (deh) *pp*

S 2  
 Thee, ————— be whol - ly di - rect - ed by Thee. So may my  
 (deh) *pp*

A 1  
 Thee, ————— be whol - ly di - rect - ed by Thee. So may my  
 (deh) *pp*

A 2  
 Thee, ————— be whol - ly di - rect - ed by Thee. So may my  
 (deh)

*pp*

\* U.S. pronunciation — see [dictionary.cambridge.org](http://dictionary.cambridge.org)

58 **E** *(pp)*

S 1  
 move - ment — and my still - ness be whol - ly di - rect - ed by  
 (deh)

S 2  
 move - ment — and my still - ness be whol - ly di - rect - ed by  
 (deh)

A 1  
 move - ment — and my still - ness be whol - ly di - rect - ed by  
 (deh)

A 2  
 move - ment — and my still - ness be whol - ly di - rect - ed by  
 (deh)

**E**

64 *(pp)*

S 1  
 Thee, ——— be whol - ly di - rect - ed — by Thee. So may I grow,  
 (deh)

S 2  
 Thee, ——— be whol - ly di - rect - ed — by Thee. So may I grow,  
 (deh)

A 1  
 Thee, ——— be whol - ly di - rect - ed — by Thee. So may I grow,  
 (deh)

A 2  
 Thee, ——— be whol - ly di - rect - ed — by Thee. So may I grow,  
 (deh)



71 **F** *p*

S 1 If it be Thy pleas - ure, make me to grow as a

S 2 If it be Thy pleas - ure, make me to grow as a

A 1 *p* If it be Thy pleas - ure, so may I grow, make me to grow as a

A 2 *p* If it be Thy pleas - ure, so may I grow, make me to grow as a

77

S 1 ten - der herb in the mead - ows of Thy grace. As a

S 2 ten - der herb in the mead - ows of Thy grace. As a

A 1 ten - der herb in the mead - ows of Thy grace. As a

A 2 ten - der herb in the mead - ows of Thy grace. As a

83 **G**

S 1 ten - der herb, may the gen - tle winds of Thy will stir me up— and  
no breath

S 2 ten - der herb, may the gen - tle winds of Thy will stir me up— and  
no breath

A 1 ten - der herb, may the gen - tle winds of Thy will stir me up— and  
no breath

A 2 ten - der herb, may the gen - tle winds of Thy will stir me up— and  
no breath

**G**

89

S 1 bend me in - to con - form - i - ty with Thy pleas - ure. rit.

S 2 bend me in - to con - form - i - ty with Thy pleas - ure. rit.

A 1 bend me in - to con - form - i - ty with Thy pleas - ure. rit.

A 2 bend me in - to con - form - i - ty with Thy pleas - ure. rit.

95 **H** a tempo

S 1 If it be Thy pleas - ure, so may I

S 2 If it be Thy pleas - ure, so may I

A 1 If it be Thy pleas - ure, so may I grow, so may I

A 2 If it be Thy pleas - ure, so may I grow, so may I

**H** a tempo

101

S 1 grow, \_\_\_\_\_ so may I grow. So may my

S 2 grow, \_\_\_\_\_ so may I grow. So may my

A 1 grow, \_\_\_\_\_ so may I grow. So may my

A 2 grow, \_\_\_\_\_ so may I grow. So may my

*pp*

107 **I**

S 1 *(pp)*  
 move - ment — and my still - ness be whol - ly di - rect - ed by  
 (deh)

S 2  
 move - ment — and my still - ness be whol - ly di - rect - ed by  
 (deh)

A 1  
 move - ment — and my still - ness be whol - ly di - rect - ed by  
 (deh)

A 2  
 move - ment — and my still - ness be whol - ly di - rect - ed by  
 (deh)

**I**

113 *(pp)* *ppp*

S 1  
 Thee, ————— be whol - ly di - rect - ed by Thee. So may my  
 (deh) *ppp*

S 2  
 Thee, ————— be whol - ly di - rect - ed by Thee. So may my  
 (deh) *ppp*

A 1  
 Thee, ————— be whol - ly di - rect - ed by Thee. So may my  
 (deh) *ppp*

A 2  
 Thee, ————— be whol - ly di - rect - ed by Thee. So may my  
 (deh) *ppp*

*ppp*

119 **J**

S 1  
 move - ment — and my still - ness be whol - ly di - rect - ed by  
 (deh)

S 2  
 move - ment — and my still - ness be whol - ly di - rect - ed by  
 (deh)

A 1  
 move - ment — and my still - ness be whol - ly di - rect - ed by  
 (deh)

A 2  
 move - ment — and my still - ness be whol - ly di - rect - ed by  
 (deh)

**J**

125 **J**

S 1  
 Thee, — be whol - ly di - rect - ed — by Thee. So may I grow,  
 (deh)

S 2  
 Thee, — be whol - ly di - rect - ed — by Thee. So may I grow,  
 (deh)

A 1  
 Thee, — be whol - ly di - rect - ed — by Thee. So may I grow,  
 (deh)

A 2  
 Thee, — be whol - ly di - rect - ed — by Thee. So may I grow,  
 (deh)

**J**

132 **K** *pp* , rit.

S 1 If it be Thy pleas - ure, so may I

S 2 If it be Thy pleas - ure, so may I

A 1 If it be Thy pleas - ure, so may I

A 2 If it be Thy pleas - ure, so may I

*pp* , rit.

138 (rit.)

S 1 grow, \_\_\_\_\_ so may I grow. \_\_\_\_\_

S 2 grow, \_\_\_\_\_ so may I grow. \_\_\_\_\_

A 1 grow, \_\_\_\_\_ so may I grow. \_\_\_\_\_

A 2 grow, \_\_\_\_\_ so may I grow. \_\_\_\_\_

(rit.)