

Handful of Days

*Selections From The Writings Of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, p 267 **

Bahá'í World Centre, Haifa, 1978

*An Early Pilgrimage, p 40 ***

George Ronald, 1969

Nancy Ward

arr. John Thomas Higgins

'Abdu'l-Bahá* **

♩ = 100

Tenor

Baritone

Bass

*Soon will our

Da dah da dah da dah da dah da dah

Dah dah dah dah dah

6

T.

Bar.

B.

hand - ful of days... be gone, gone, gone, days be

da dah da dah da dah da dah da dah

dah dah dah dah dah dah

12

T.

Bar.

B.

gone. Soon will our hand - ful of days... be gone, gone,

da dah da dah da dah da dah da dah

dah dah dah dah dah dah

18

T. gone, soon, soon will our days be gone.

Bar. da dah da dah da dah da dah da dah

B. dah dah dah dah dah dah

24

T. Ah Ah Ah

Bar. Ah Ah

B.

31

T. And we shall pass, pass, in-to the hol-low we shall pass, pass, Ah Ah

Bar. Ah Ah

B.

38

S. 2 Where-fore must we

T. Ah Ah

Bar. Ah

B.

those who speak no more, dug for those who speak no more.

Handful of Days

45

S. 2
bind our hearts to the man - i - fest Beau - ty, — bind our hearts to the

A.
Ah — Ah —

T.
Ah — Ah —

51

S. 2
man - i - fest beau - ty, — bind our hearts to the man - i - fest Beau - ty, —

A.
Ah —

T.
Ah —

57

S. 2
man - i - fest, man - i - fest Beau - ty bind our hearts.

A.
Ah — Ah —

T.
Ah — Ah —

64

S. 1
And cling, _____ cling to the life-line, the life-line and _____ cling to the,

S. 2
Ah _____ Ah _____

A.
Ah _____

T.
Ah _____ Ah _____

B.
Ah _____ Ah _____

70

S. 1
cling to the life-line, the life-line and cling _____ cling to the life-line, the

S. 2
Ah _____

A.

T.
Ah _____

B.
Ah _____

Handful of Days

76

S. 1
life - line that fail - eth ne - ver, fail - eth ne - ver, cling, cling,

S. 2
Ah

A.

T.
Ah

B.
Ah

83

S. 1
cling. And cling, _____ cling to the life - line, the

S. 2
— Where - fore must we bind our _____ hearts to the man - i - fest

A.
And we shall pass, pass, in - to the

T.
Ah _____ Soon will our hand - ful of days... be

B.
Ah _____ **I am with you al - ways, I am with you

88

S. 1
life - line_ and_ cling to the, cling to the life - line, the

S. 2
Beau - ty, bind our hearts to the man - i - fest

A.
hol - low we shall pass, pass, in - to the

T.
gone, gone, gone, days be

B.
al - ways, I am with you al - ways, I am with you al - ways,

92

S. 1
life - line_ and_ cling, cling to the life - line, the

S. 2
beau - ty, bind our hearts to the man - i - fest

A.
hol - low we'll pass, pass in - to the

T.
gone. Soon will our hand - ful of days... be

B.
I am with you. I am with you al - ways, I am with you

96

S. 1
life - line that_ fail - eth ne - ver_ fail - eth ne - ver

S. 2
Beau - ty, man - i - fest, man - i - fest Beau - ty

A.
hol - low that is dug for those who speak no more, dug for

T.
gone, gone, gone, soon, soon will our

B.
al - ways, I am with you al - ways, I am with you al - ways I am,

101

S. 1
cling, cling, cling._____

S. 2
bind our hearts._____


A.
those who speak no more._____

T.
days be gone._____ I am with you al - ways,

Bar.
I am with you al - ways,

B.
al - ways, I am with you al - ways._____ I am with you al - ways,


107


T.  I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways,


Bar.  I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways I am with you al- ways,

B.  I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways,


112

T.  I am with you. I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways, I am

Bar.  I am with you. I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways, I am

B.  I am with you. I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways, I am

117


T.  with you al - ways, I am with you al - ways I am,


Bar.  with you al - ways I am with you al - ways, I am

B.  with you al - ways, I am with you al - ways I am,

121

T.  al - ways, I am with you al - ways._____

Bar.  al - ways, I am with you al - ways._____

B.  al - ways, I am with you al - ways._____

125

S. 1
I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways,

S. 2
I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways,

A.
I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways,

T.
Soon will our hand-ful of days... be gone, gone,

130

S. 1
I am with you al- ways, I am with you. I am with you al- ways,

S. 2
I am with you al- ways, I am with you. I am with you al- ways,

A.
I am with you al- ways, I am with you. I am with you al- ways,

T.
gone, days be gone. Soon will our hand-ful of

135

S. 1
I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways, I

S. 2
I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways I am with you al- ways, I

A.
I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways, I am with you al- ways, I

T.
days... be gone, gone, gone, soon,

140

S. 1
am, al - ways, I am with you al - ways. —

S. 2
am al - ways, I am with you al - ways. —

A.
am, al - ways, I am with you al - ways. —

T.
8 soon will our days be gone. I am with you
Soon will our

146

A.
al - ways, I am with you al - ways, I am with you al - ways, I am with you

T.
8 hand - ful of days... be gone, gone, gone, E

151

A.
al - ways, I am with you. I am with you al - ways, I am with you

T.
8 days be gone. Soon will our hand - ful of days... be

156

A.
al - ways, I am with you al - ways, I am with you al - ways I

T.
8 gone, gone, gone, soon,

160

A.
am, al - ways, I am with you al - ways. —

T.
8 soon will our days be gone. —

Handful of Days

165

S. 1 *mp*
dah — dah — dah — dah — dah

S. 2 *mp*
dah dah dah dah dah

A. *mf*
Soon will our hand - ful of days... be gone, gone,

T. *mf*
Soon will our hand - ful of days... be gone, gone,

Bar. *mp*
da dah da dah da dah da dah da dah

B. *mp*
dah dah dah dah dah

170

S. 1
— dah — dah — dah — dah — dah

S. 2
gone dah dah dah dah

A.
gone, days be gone. Soon will our hand - ful of

T.
gone, days be gone. Soon will our hand - ful of

Bar.
da dah da dah da dah da dah da dah

B.
dah dah dah dah dah

175

S. 1
 — dah — dah — dah — dah — dah — dah

S. 2
 dah dah dah dah dah dah

A.
 days... be gone, gone, gone, soon, soon will our

T.
 days... be gone, gone, gone, soon, soon will our

Bar.
 da dah da dah da dah da dah da dah

B.
 dah dah dah dah dah dah

181

S. 1
 dah — dah — dah — dah — dah — dah

S. 2
 dah dah dah dah dah

A.
 days be gone, soon will our days

T.
 days be gone, soon will our days

Bar.
 da dah da dah da dah da dah da dah

B.
 dah dah dah dah dah dah

Handful of Days

187 rit.

S. 1
dah dah dah dah dah

S. 2
dah dah dah dah

A.
be gone

T.
be gone

Bar.
da dah da dah da dah da dah

B.
dah dah dah dah dah

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a five-part vocal ensemble. The score is in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It begins with a 'rit.' (ritardando) marking. The vocal parts are: Soprano 1 (S. 1), Soprano 2 (S. 2), Alto (A.), Tenor (T.), and Bass (B.). The lyrics are: 'dah dah dah dah dah' for S. 1, 'dah dah dah dah' for S. 2, 'be gone' for A. and T., and 'da dah da dah da dah da dah' for Bar. and 'dah dah dah dah dah' for B. The music consists of rhythmic patterns of eighth and quarter notes, with some phrases held over from the previous measure.

Soon will our handful of days, our vanishing life, be gone, and we shall pass, empty-handed, into the hollow that is dug for those who speak no more; wherefore must we bind our hearts to the manifest Beauty, and cling to the lifeline that faileth never. We must gird ourselves for service, kindle love's flame, and burn away in its heat. We must loose our tongues till we set the wide world's heart afire, and with bright rays of guidance blot out the armies of the night, and then, for His sake, on the field of sacrifice, fling down our lives.

'Abdu'l-Bahá,

Selections from the Writings of Abdu'l-Bahá, p. 267

And now I give you a commandment which shall be for a covenant between you and Me - that ye have faith; that your faith be steadfast as a rock that no storms can move, that nothing can disturb, and that it endure through all things even to the end; even should ye hear that your Lord has been crucified, be not shaken in your faith; for I am with you always, whether living or dead, I am with you to the end.

'Abdu'l-Bahá,

from May Maxwell, *An Early Pilgrimage*, p 40.