

Take Counsel Together

'Abdu'l-Bahá
/jth

from the musical play, Certitude

John Thomas Higgins

$\text{♩} = 110$

7

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

7

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

13

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

20

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

Take Counsel Together

26

Realms of Glory." "Speak with courtesy care

This system contains measures 26 through 31. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The time signature changes from 2/4 to 6/4, then to 4/4, and finally to 8/4. The lyrics are: "Realms of Glory." "Speak with courtesy care".

32

— and moderation." Express freely your opinion

This system contains measures 32 through 37. The key signature remains three flats. The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "— and moderation." Express freely your opinion".

38

but don't insist that you are right. "Not until matters are

This system contains measures 38 through 44. The key signature remains three flats. The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "but don't insist that you are right. "Not until matters are".

45

fully discussed can the right way the right way be rev-

This system contains measures 45 through 50. The key signature remains three flats. The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "fully discussed can the right way the right way be rev-".

51

ealed." "The shin-ing spark of truth com-eth forth_____

57

on - ly_____ af-ter the clash of dif-fer-ing o - pin - ions."_____ "The

63

"What-so - e - ver thing is ar - ranged_____ in har-mon - y_____

69

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

Take Counsel Together

33

75

sult is light, light." 1.

79

its re - light." 2.

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...

Selections From The Writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, pp 87 - 88. Bahá'í World Centre, Haifa, 1978

This song could be sung at other times than during a performance of the musical play for which it was written. It is for this reason that I kept the harmony in the vocal line. Alternatively, a director may wish to have the two protagonists in the play sing part of this song as a duet, for example when phrases repeat in the music.

JTH

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