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LIBBY LARSEN
CHORAL SERIES

Who Cannot Weep, Come Learn of Me

(The Virgin's Lament over her dead Son)

FOR SOLO MEZZO-SOPRANO, SOLO TENOR, AND TREBLE CHORUS

Text from MS 09.38, Trinity College, Cambridge, England

Translated into modern English by Libby Larsen

Solo Mezzo-Soprano

Treble Chorus

Solo Tenor

mf
(ng)

mp quietly
(Hum, mouth closed)

recitative

recitative

recitative

Sud - den - ly a - fraid, half wak - ing, half

sleep - ing and great - ly dis - mayed, a wo - man sat weep - ing,

Ah

bliss. *p* Ah *mp* *bliss.*
 weep - ing, with grief on her face far pass - ing my rea - son,

p Ah Ah,
pp Ah Ah,
 and of her sor - ry weep - ing this was the oc - cas - sion,

p Ah, Ah,
 her son in her lap Laid slayed by trea - son,

if weep - ing was com - fort then it seemed in sea - son.

accelerando - - - - -
f extremely anguished

Je - sus, Je - sus, Je - sus, Je - sus

Je - sus, Je - sus, Ah,

accelerando

So she sobbed,

Je - sus, (ng)

(Ah)

so her son was beat - en, and of his life robed, say - ing these

mf Who can - not weep, come learn of

words as I say them, "Who can - not weep, come learn of

♩ = 84 *recitative*

me.

♩ = 84 *p* *recitative*

Ah, Ah,

♩ = 84 *recitative*

me?" I said I could not weep, I was so hard heart-ed.

f angrily
gliss.
attacca Lo, —
mf Lo —

She an - swered me — shor - tly with words that smart - ed.

na - ture shall make you! You — must be con - vert - ed. Thine own
mf You — Thine —

ff Fa - ther this night is dead! Je - sus, Je - sus, Je - sus,
f Je - sus

p < f > p half-voiced Je - sus, So, my son is beat-en, and of his life robbed. *mp* Ah,
=84 =84 =84

recitative $\text{♩} = 84$

recitative $\text{♩} = 84$

recitative *quickly, almost murmuring* $\text{♩} = 84$ Ah, _____

For-sooth, then I sobbed, in truth, "Who can-not weep, come learn of me?"

mournfully *recitative accelerando*

Now break heart, I pray thee. This child, used so cruel-ly,

recitative accelerando

Now break heart, I pray thee. Ah, _____

recitative accelerando

$\text{♩} = 112$ *p* *ff* *angrily*

so wound-ed, treat-ed so foul-y, Je-sus, ah, Who could be-hold thee and weep not?

pp $\text{♩} = 112$

Who _____

$\text{♩} = 112$

softly, bewildered *f* *angrily* *moaning, anguished* *p* *molto*

mp none, trul-y, to see my dead son blee-ding this new-ly, ah, _____

pp

Who _____

mf

So she sobbed,