

# Four Blake Songs

## 2. THE LITTLE BLACK BOY

Mixed choir

Text: William Blake (1757-1827)

Huub de Lange (\*1955)

$\text{♩} = 80$

S *mf* My mo-ther bore me in the sou-thern wild, — And I am

A *mf* bore me in the sou-thern wild, — And I am

T *mf* My mo-ther bore me in the sou-thern wild, — And I am

B *mf* (mm...)

3

black, but oh! my soul is white. White as an

black, but oh! my soul is white. White as an

black, but oh! my soul is white. White as an

6

an - gel is the Eng - lish child, But I am black as if be - reaved of

an - gel is the Eng - lish child, But I am black as if be - reaved of

8 an - gel is the Eng - lish child, But I am black as if be - reaved of

Detailed description: This system contains three vocal staves and one bass staff. The music is in 2/4 time. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a 6-measure rest. The second staff starts with a treble clef and a 6-measure rest. The third staff starts with a treble clef and an 8-measure rest. The bass staff has a bass clef and a 6-measure rest. The lyrics are: 'an - gel is the Eng - lish child, But I am black as if be - reaved of'.

9

light. (mm... be - reaved of light.

light. (mm... be - reaved of light. My mo - ther

8 light. (mm...) be - reaved of light. My mo - ther

My mo - ther

Detailed description: This system contains three vocal staves and one bass staff. The music is in 2/4 time. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a 9-measure rest. The second staff starts with a treble clef and a 9-measure rest. The third staff starts with a treble clef and an 8-measure rest. The bass staff has a bass clef and a 9-measure rest. The lyrics are: 'light. (mm... be - reaved of light.', 'light. (mm... be - reaved of light. My mo - ther', 'light. (mm...) be - reaved of light. My mo - ther', and 'My mo - ther'.

12

taught me un - der - neath a tree, — And, sit - ting down be - fore the heat of

8 taught me un - der - neath a tree, — And, sit - ting down be - fore the heat of

taught me un - der - neath a tree, — And, sit - ting down be - fore the heat of

Detailed description: This system contains three vocal staves and one bass staff. The music is in 2/4 time. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a 12-measure rest. The second staff starts with a treble clef and a 12-measure rest. The third staff starts with a treble clef and an 8-measure rest. The bass staff has a bass clef and a 12-measure rest. The lyrics are: 'taught me un - der - neath a tree, — And, sit - ting down be - fore the heat of', 'taught me un - der - neath a tree, — And, sit - ting down be - fore the heat of', and 'taught me un - der - neath a tree, — And, sit - ting down be - fore the heat of'.

15

day, She took me on her lap and kissed

day, She took me on her lap and kissed

day, She took me on her lap and kissed

18

me, And poin-ting to the east be - gan to say:

me, And poin-ting to the easr be - gan to say:

me, And poin-ting to the east be - gan to say:

21

"Look on the

(mm... ..) be - gan to say: "Look on the

(mm... ..) be - gan to say:

(mm...) be - gan to say:

24

ri-sing sun, \_\_\_\_\_ there God does live \_\_\_\_\_ And

ri-sing sun, \_\_\_\_\_

"Look on the ri-sing sun,

"Look on the ri-singsun,

28

gives his light, and gives his heat a - way; And flo - wers and

light, heat a - way, And flo - wers and

And flo - wers and

32

trees and beasts and men re - ceive

trees and beasts and men re - ceive

trees and beasts and men re - ceive

36

Com - fort in mor - ning, joy in the noon - day. And  
 Com - fort in mor - ning, joy in the noon - day.  
 Com - fort in mor - ning,  
 Com - fort in mor - ning,

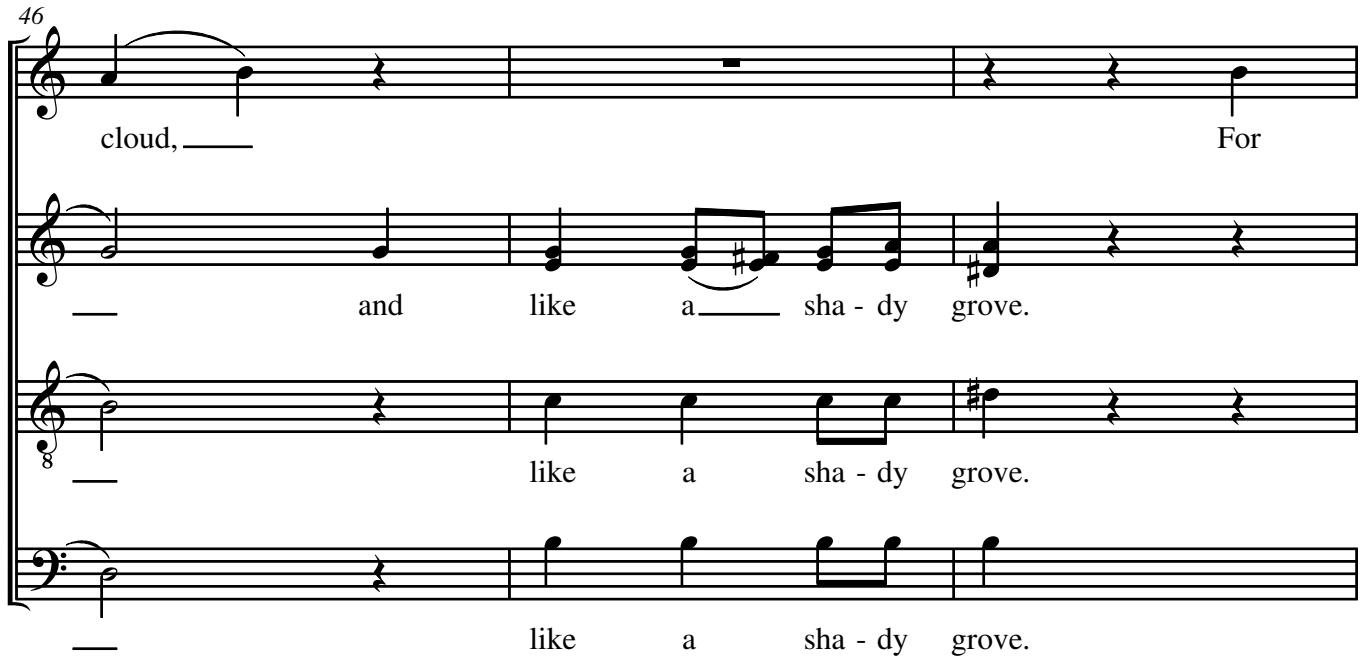
40

we are put on earth a litt - le space That we may learn to bear the beams of

43

love; And these black bo - dies and this sun - burnt face is but a

46



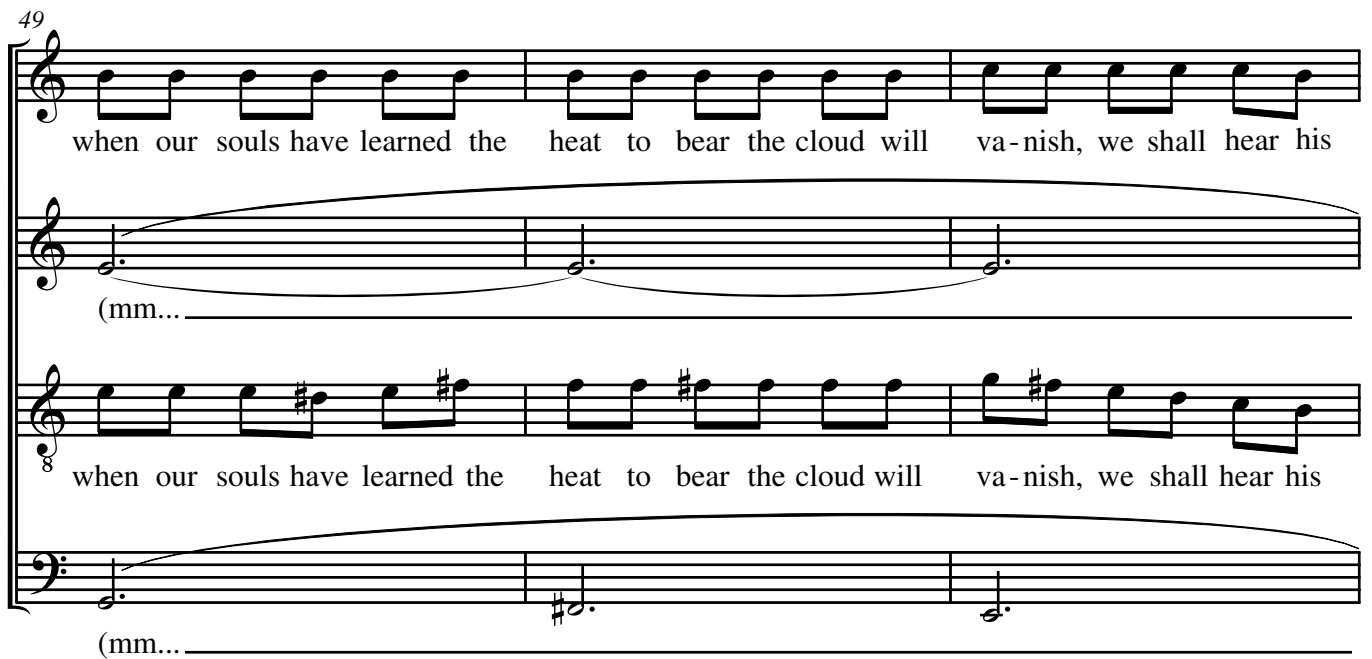
cloud, \_\_\_ For

\_\_\_ and like a sha - dy grove.

8 like a sha - dy grove.

\_\_\_ like a sha - dy grove.

49



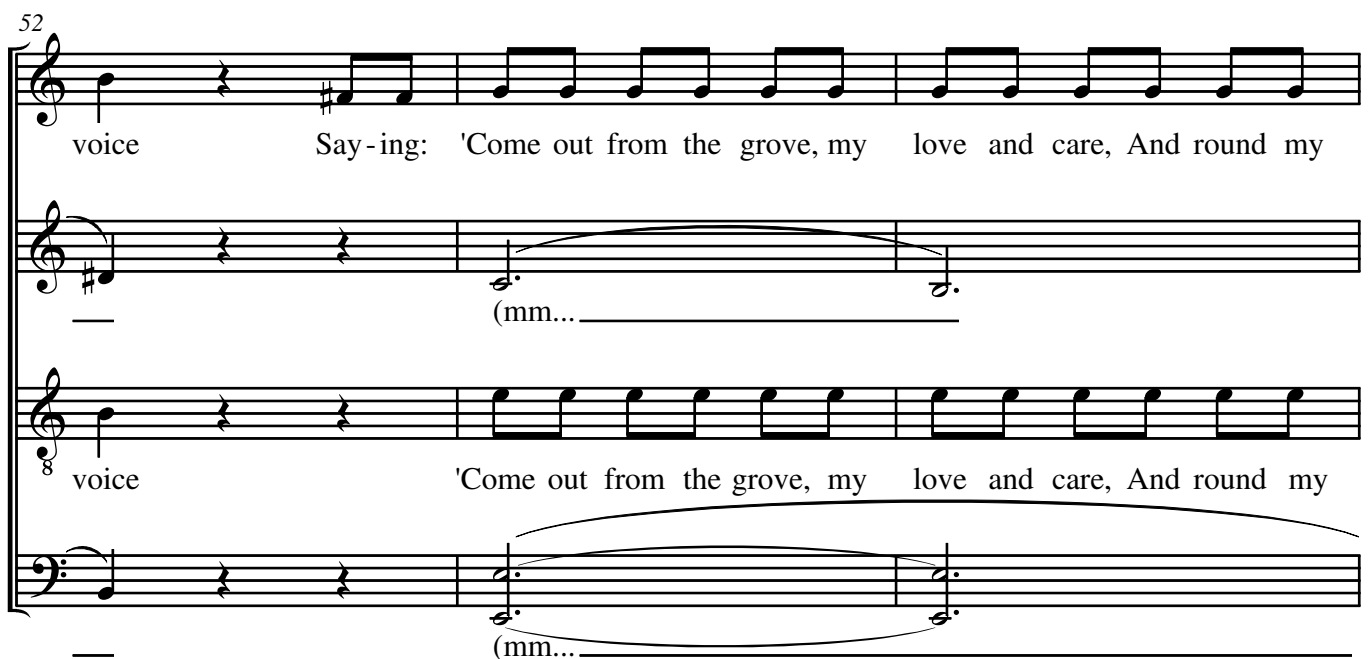
when our souls have learned the heat to bear the cloud will va-nish, we shall hear his

(mm...)

8 when our souls have learned the heat to bear the cloud will va-nish, we shall hear his

(mm...)

52



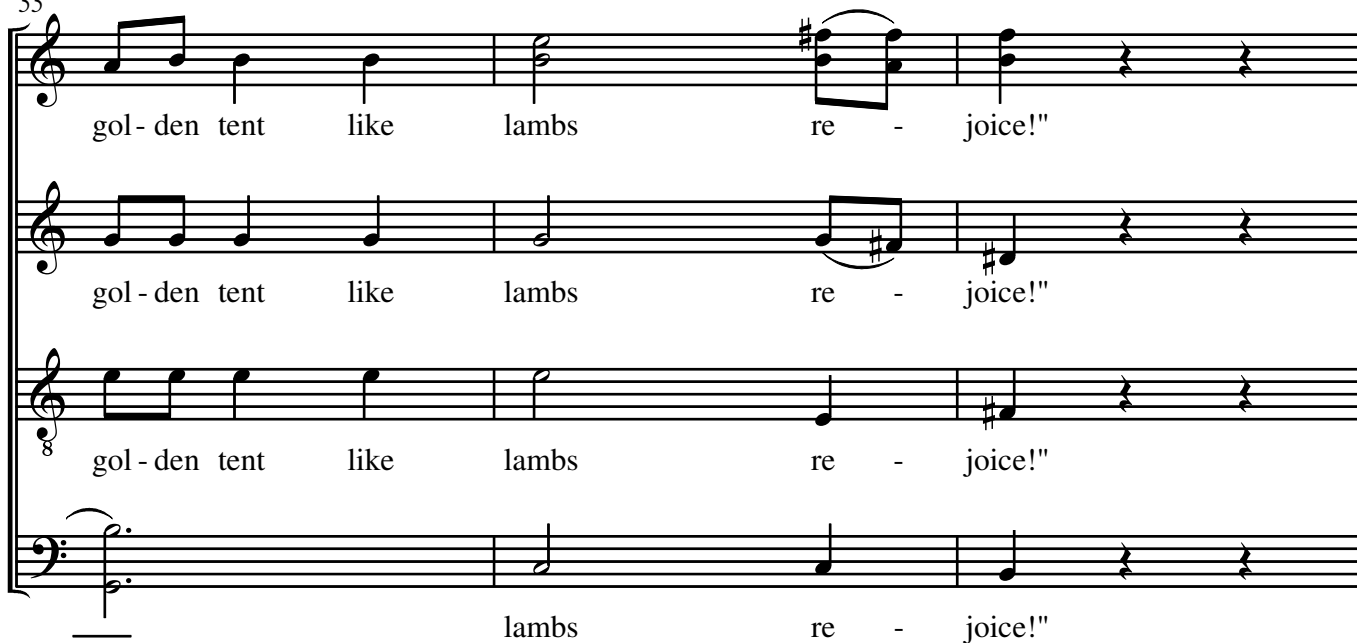
voice Say-ing: 'Come out from the grove, my love and care, And round my

(mm...)

8 voice 'Come out from the grove, my love and care, And round my

(mm...)

55



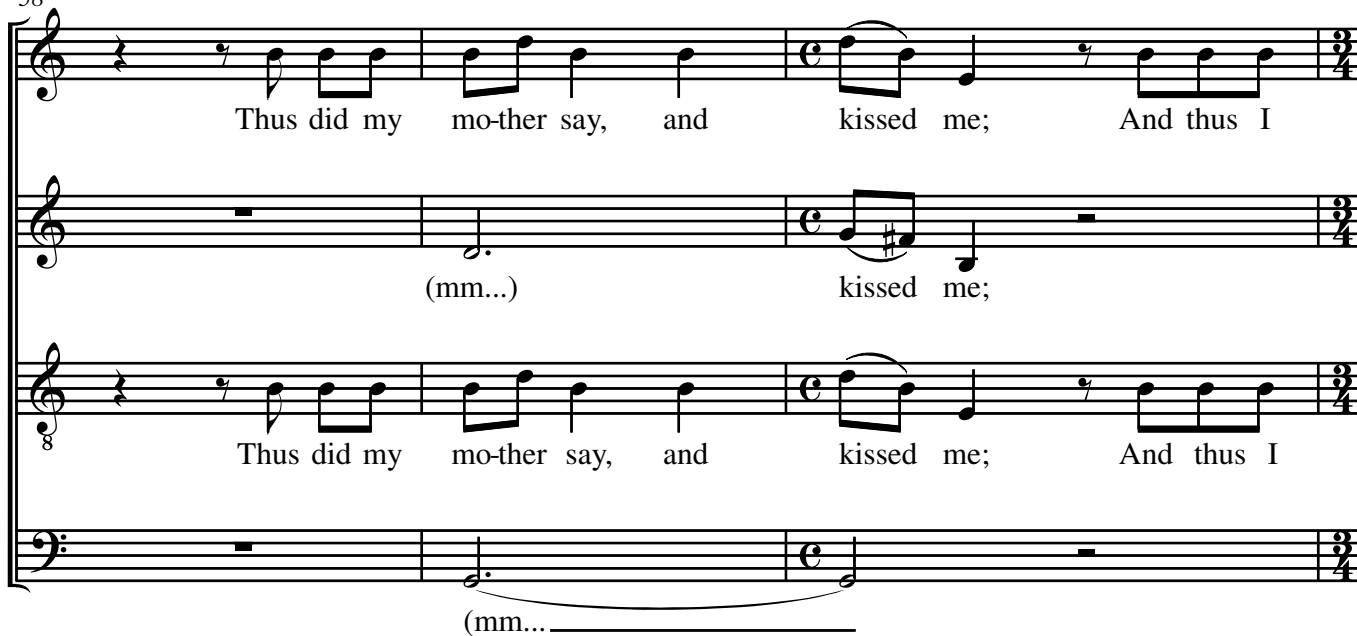
gol - den tent like lambs re - joice!"

gol - den tent like lambs re - joice!"

gol - den tent like lambs re - joice!"

lambs re - joice!"

58



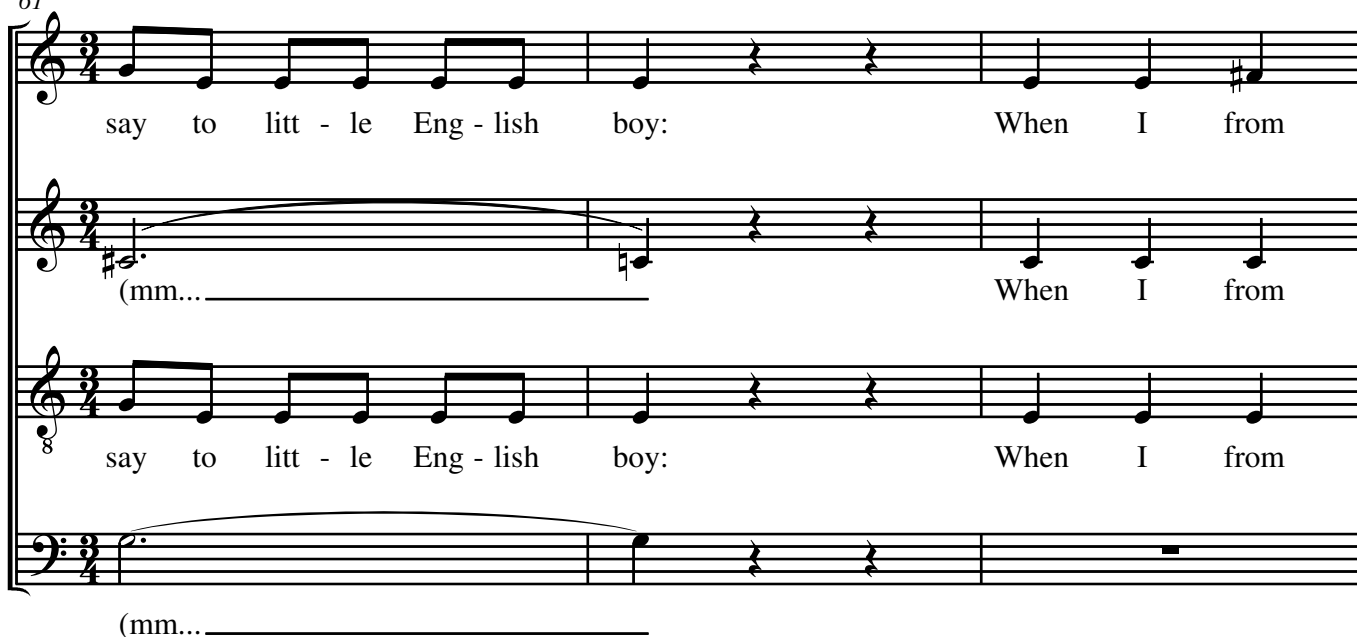
Thus did my mo-ther say, and kissed me; And thus I

(mm...) kissed me;

Thus did my mo-ther say, and kissed me; And thus I

(mm...)

61



say to litt - le Eng - lish boy: When I from

(mm...) When I from

say to litt - le Eng - lish boy: When I from

(mm...)

64

black and he from white cloud free, And round the tent of God like lambs we

black and he from white cloud free, And round the tent of God like lambs we

black and he from white cloud free, And round the tent of God like lambs we

67

joy, (mm... ...) like lambs we joy, joy,

joy, (mm...) like lambs we joy, joy,

joy, (mm...) like lambs we joy, I'll shade him

70

from the heat till he can bear to lean in joy up - on our Fa-ther's

(mm...)



73

And then I'll stand and stroke his sil - ver hair,

(mm...)

8 knee; (mm...)

(mm...)

Detailed description: This system contains measures 73, 74, and 75. It features four staves: vocal, piano, alto, and bass. The vocal line has lyrics 'And then I'll stand and stroke his sil - ver hair,'. The piano part has a melodic line with a slur and 'mm...' marking. The alto part has a similar melodic line with '8 knee;' and 'mm...'. The bass part has a lower melodic line with 'mm...'. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4.

76

And be like him, and he will then loves

him, loves

8 him, loves

him, loves

Detailed description: This system contains measures 76, 77, 78, and 79. It features four staves: vocal, piano, alto, and bass. The vocal line has lyrics 'And be like him, and he will then loves'. The piano part has a melodic line with a slur and 'mm...' marking. The alto part has a similar melodic line with '8 him, loves'. The bass part has a lower melodic line with 'him, loves'. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4.

80

me. (mm...)

me. (mm...)

8 me. (mm...)

me. (mm...)

Detailed description: This system contains measures 80, 81, 82, and 83. It features four staves: vocal, piano, alto, and bass. The vocal line has lyrics 'me.' and a slur with 'mm...'. The piano part has a melodic line with a slur and 'mm...'. The alto part has a similar melodic line with '8 me. (mm...)'. The bass part has a lower melodic line with 'me. (mm...)'. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4.

84

*rit.*

(mm...)

(mm...)

(mm...)

(mm...)

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a four-part setting of 'The Little Black Boy'. It consists of four staves, all in 3/4 time. The top staff is in treble clef and contains the vocal line, starting with a melodic phrase and ending with a fermata. The second staff is also in treble clef and provides a harmonic accompaniment. The third staff is in bass clef and contains a lower vocal or instrumental part. The bottom staff is in bass clef and provides a bass line. The score includes dynamic markings such as 'rit.' and '(mm...)' and features various musical notations like slurs, accidentals, and fermatas.