

Travis Reynolds

# Hobbes, the Cat

*For SATB and Piano*

Text by William Wallis

## About the work

*Hobbes, the Cat* was written for First Unitarian Universalist of Los Angeles, where the composer is music director and pianist, and the poet of the text a member of the tenor section. Written in the winter of 2020, its premiere was postponed due to COVID-19; it received a virtual in April of 2021.

As is typical of the composer's work, the piece is written almost as a folk song or improvisation. The choir takes on the role of the poet, while the pianist represents the cat or son - at times sympathetic to the proceedings, but often indifferently skirting about with its own character and personality.

# Hobbes, the Cat

Melancholy ♩ = 80

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

Piano

5

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

up on\_ you; mm\_

Fi - nal- ly, we gave up; mm\_

11 **A**

S. *p* af - ter your e - chapp - er bell - e

A. *p* Eight days af - ter your e - chapp - er bell - e

T.

B.

Pno. *p cresc.* *legato* *p*

15

S. *p* But

A. *p* But

T.

B.

Pno. *mp playful* *poco cresc.*

22 **B**

S. *mf* *mp poco cresc.*  
 then, one day, rail - thin\_ and You\_ slipped back in\_

A. *mf* *mp poco cresc.*  
 then, one day; thin\_ and fil - thy, You\_ slipped back in\_

T. *p* *mf* *mp poco cresc.*  
 then, one day, rail - thin\_ and fil - thy, You\_ slipped back in\_

B. *p* *mf* *mp poco cresc.*  
 one day; thin\_ and fil - thy, You\_ slipped back in\_

Pno. *mp* *mf*

27 **B**

S. - - - - -

A. *mp* *p*  
 as the door\_ closed un - an nounced;\_

T. *mp*  
 as the door\_ closed

B. - - - - -

Pno. *pp*

31 *p* *pp*

S. un - a - neled; ma - lice

A. *p* *pp*  
and free; ma - lice

T. *mp* *pp*  
of ma - lice

B. *p* *pp*  
free; ma - lice

Pno. *p cresc.* *f*

36 **C** *f*

S. My old heart leapt up; You were af - ter all an

A. *f*  
My old heart leapt up; You were af - ter all an

T. *f*  
My old heart leapt up; You were af - ter all

B. *f*  
My old heart leapt up; You were af - ter all

Pno. *ff* 3 10 3

39

S. er - rant gift

A. er - rant gift From my ra - scal son;

T. er - rant gift; ra - scal son; Who e -

B. er - rant gift Who e -

Pno. *poco rit.*

45 **D** a Tempo

S. Leav - ing be - hind him; Leaving be - hind him lean;

A. time be - fore you, Leav - ing be - hind him; Leav - ing be - hind him; lean me - mo - ries;

T. scaped some time be - fore you, Leav - ing be - hind him lean me - mo - ries;

B. scaped some time; be - fore you, Leav - ing be - hind him lean;

Pno. **D** a Tempo *p* still and soft through the end

52 *mp* **E**

S. and rich — pro-mi - ses

A. *mp* rich — pro - mi-ses *p* to re turn;—

T. *mp* rich — pro - mi-ses

B. *mp* and rich — pro - mi-ses

Pno. *p* *p* *p* *mp* *pp*

59 *p* **F** *p*

S. to re turn;— to re - turn;—

A. to re - turn;—

T. *p* to re - turn;—

B. *p* to re - turn;—

Pno. *p* *mp* *pp* *p* *mp*



65

S. *mp* to re - turn. *n.*

A. *mp* to re - turn. *n.*

T. to re - turn. *p* to;

B. *p* to re - turn.

Pno. *pp* *p*

69

S. *n.*

A. *n.*

T. *n.* *p espr.* to re - turn. *n.*

B. *n.*

Pno. *pp* *n.*