

# *Two Homer Sonnets*

*(Keats)*

*On First Looking Into Chapmans's Homer*

*To Homer*

**John Kilpatrick**

for unaccompanied singers

**SATB (4-part)**

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and performances given at will.

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In the first piece nouns (but not pronouns) which start with a letter corresponding to a note in the musical scale (German style, A-H) feature a chord of that note. Balboa has his place in Cortez's chord (see note on page 11).

In the second piece the rule is less strict but more pervasive.

The pieces may be sung individually, or in sequence as a pair.

**Pronunciation:**

Demesne: to rhyme with serene

Cyclades: sick-lad-ease

Aye (=ever): to rhyme with day, not with sky

# On First Looking Into Chapman's Homer

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Keats I **Moderato** (♩ = 72) *mp*

S Much have I tra - vell'd in the realms, the realms of gold, *f*

A Much have I tra-vell'd in the realms, the realms of gold, *f*

T Much have I tra - vell'd in the realms, the realms of gold, And *mf*

B Much have I tra-vell'd in the realms, the realms of gold, *f*

piano *for rehearsal mp*

4 *mf*

And ma - ny good - ly states and king - doms seen; *mf*

And ma - ny good - ly states and king - doms seen; *mf*

8 ma - ny good - ly states and king - doms, ma - ny good - ly states and king - doms

And ma - ny good - ly states and king - doms seen; *mf*

6 *p* *mp*

Round ma - ny west - ern is - lands have I been Which *mp*

Round ma - ny west - ern is - lands have I been Which *mp*

8 seen; Round ma - ny west - ern is - lands have I been Which bards *mp*

Round ma - ny west - ern is - lands have I been

*p* *mp*

9

bards in feal - ty to A - pol - lo hold. Oft of one wide

bards in feal - ty to A - pol - lo hold. Oft of one wide ex -

in feal - ty to A - pol - lo hold. Oft of one wide ex -

Which bards in feal - ty to A - pol - lo hold. Oft of one wide ex -

*rit.* *p*, *mf*

*mp* *p*, *mf*

*rit.* *p* *mf*

12

ex - panse had I been told That deep-brow'd Ho - mer ruled

panse had I been told That deep-brow'd Ho - mer ruled

panse had I been told That deep-brow'd Ho - mer ruled

panse had I, had I been told That deep-brow'd Ho - mer ruled

*mp* *f*

*mp* *f*

*mp* *f*

*mp* *f*

*mp* *f*

15

as his de - mesne; Yet did I ne - ver breathe its pure se -

as his de - mesne; Yet did I ne - ver breathe its pure se - rene

as his de - mesne; Yet did I ne - ver breathe its pure se - rene,

as his de - mesne; Yet did I ne - ver breathe its pure se -

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

rene Till I heard Chap-man speak out loud and bold:

Till I heard Chap-man speak out loud and bold:

its pure se-rene Till I heard Chap-man speak out loud, loud and bold:

rene Till I heard Chap-man speak out loud and bold, loud and bold:

Then felt I like some watch-er, some watch-er of the skies

Then felt I like some watch-er, some watch-er of the skies

Then felt I like some watch-er, some watch-er of the skies

Then felt I like some watch-er, some watch-er of the skies

Whena new pla-net swims in-to his ken; Or like stout

Whena new pla-net swims, swims in-to his ken; Or like stout

When a new pla-net, a new pla-net swims in-to his ken; Or like stout

Whena new pla-net, a new pla-net swims in-to his ken; Or like stout

28

Cor - tez when with ea - gle eyes He star'd, star'd at the Pa - ci - fic:

Cor - tez when with ea - gle eyes He star'd, star'd at the Pa - ci - fic:

Cor - tez when with ea - gle eyes He star'd, he star'd at the Pa - ci - fic:

Cor - tez when with ea - gle eyes He star'd at the Pa - ci - fic:

31

Look'd at eachoth - er with a wild sur - mise

Look'd at eachoth - er with a wild sur - mise

and all his men Look'd at eachoth - er with a wild sur - mise

and all his men Look'd at eachoth - er with a wild sur - mise

35

Sil - ent, up - on a peak in Da - ri - en

Sil - ent, Sil - ent, up - on a peak in Dar - ri - en.

Sil - ent, up - on a peak in Da - ri - en.

Sil - ent, up - on a peak in Da - ri - en.

# To Homer

SATB

John Kilpatrick

Keats I Allegro moderato (♩ = 108)

S *mf* Stand - ing a - loof, in gi - ant ign - or - ance, Of

A *mf* Stand - ing a - loof in gi - ant ign - or - ance, Of

T *mf* Stand - ing, a - loof in gi - ant ign - or - ance, Of

B *mf* Stand - ing, a - loof in gi - ant ign - or - ance, Of

piano *for rehearsal mf*

5 thee I hear and of the Cy - clad - es,

thee I hear and of the Cy - clad - es,

thee I hear and of the Cy - clad - es, As

thee I hear and of the Cy - clad - es,

9 *mp* As one who sits a - shore and longs per - chance To vi - sit

*mp* As one who sits a - shore and longs per ehance To vi - sit

*mp* one, as one who sits a - shore and longs per ehance To vi - sit

*mp* As one who sits a - shore and longs per ehance To vi - sit

13

dol - phin - co - ral in deep seas. So thou wast blind;  
 dol - phin - co - ral in deep seas. So thou wast blind;  
 dol - phin - co - ral in deep seas. So thou wast blind;  
 dol - phin - co - ral in deep seas. So thou wast blind;

17

but then the veil was rent, For Jove un - curtain'd Hea - ven to let thee  
 but then the veil was rent, For Jove un - curtain'd Hea - ven to let thee  
 but then the veil was rent, For Jove un - curtain'd Hea - ven  
 but then the veil was rent, For Jove un - curtain'd Hea - ven to let thee

21

live, And Nep - tune made for thee a spu - my  
 live, And Nep - tune made for thee a spu - my  
 to let thee live, And Nep - tune made for thee a  
 live, And Nep - tune made for thee a



24

tent, And Pan made sing for thee his for - est - hive; Aye  
 tent, And Pan made sing for thee his for - est - hive; Aye  
 tent, And Pan made sing for thee his for - est - hive; Aye  
 tent, And Pan made sing for thee his for - est - hive; Aye  
 mp  
 mp  
 mp  
 mp  
 mp

28

on the shores of dark - ness there is light, And  
 on the shores of dark - ness there is light, And  
 on the shores of dark - ness there is light,  
 on the shores of dark - ness there is light, And pre -  
 f  
 f  
 f  
 f  
 f

32

pre - ci - pi - ces show un - trod - den green,  
 pre - ci - pi - ces show un - trod - den green,  
 And pre - ci - pi - ces show un - trod - den green, There is a bud - ding mor - row -  
 ci - pi - ces show un - trod - den green, There is a bud - ding mor - row -  
 mf  
 mf  
 mf  
 mf

36

blind - ness keen;\_

There is a tri - ple sight in blind - ness keen;\_

in mid - night, There is a tri - ple sight in blind - ness keen;\_

in mid - night, There is a tri - ple sight in blind - ness keen;\_

41

Maestoso  $\text{♩} = 96$ 

Such see - ing hadst thou, as it once be - fel To

Such see - ing hadst thou, as it once be - fel To

Such see - ing hadst thou, as it once be - fel To

Such see - ing hadst thou, as it once be - fel To

45

Di - an, Queen of earth, and Hea - ven, and Hell.

Di - an, Queen of earth, and Hea - ven, and Hell.

Di - an, Queen of earth, and Hea - ven, and Hell.

Di - an, Queen of earth, and Hea - ven, and Hell.

## Two Homer Sonnets by John Keats

### *Words*

#### ON FIRST LOOKING INTO CHAPMAN'S HOMER 1815

Much have I travell'd in the realms of gold,  
And many goodly states and kingdoms seen;  
Round many western islands have I been  
Which bards in fealty to Apollo hold.  
Oft of one wide expanse had I been told  
That deep-brow'd Homer ruled as his demesne;  
Yet did I never breathe its pure serene  
Till I heard Chapman speak out loud and bold:  
Then felt I like some watcher of the skies  
When a new planet swims into his ken;  
Or like stout Cortez when with eagle eyes  
He star'd at the Pacific - and all his men  
Look'd at each other with a wild surmise -  
Silent, upon a peak in Darien.

#### TO HOMER 1818

Standing aloof in giant ignorance,  
Of thee I hear and of the Cyclades,  
As one who sits ashore and longs perchance  
To visit dolphin-coral in deep seas.  
So thou wast blind; - but then the veil was rent,  
For Jove uncurtain'd Heaven to let thee live,  
And Neptune made for thee a spumy tent,  
And Pan made sing for thee his forest-hive;  
Aye on the shores of darkness there is light,  
And precipices show untrodden green;  
There is a budding morrow in midnight;  
There is a triple sight in blindness keen;  
Such seeing hadst thou as it once befel  
To Dian, Queen of Earth, and Heaven, and Hell.

*In the first sonnet Keats confused Cortez with Balboa. Balboa saw the Pacific, while Cortez's find was Mexico City.*

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