

Open the Door to Christmas

words: Cath & Oliver Barton

music: Oliver Barton

unaccompanied SATB, div.

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oliver.barton@virgin.net

Open the Door to Christmas

words: Cath and Oliver Barton

Oliver Barton

With drive and rhythmic energy ♩ = 94 (♩ = 141)

The musical score is arranged for four voices: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). It consists of three systems of music. Each system includes vocal lines with lyrics and piano accompaniment. The tempo is marked 'mf' (mezzo-forte) and the time signature is 6/8. The lyrics are: 'O - pen the door to Christ - mas, O - pen the door, the sea - son's here; O - pen the door to Christ - mas, O - pen the door, the rea - son's here; here; O - pen the door to Christ - mas, O - pen the door, your bro - ther's clear; O - pen the door to Christ - mas, O - pen the door, your bro - ther's clear;'. The piano part provides a rhythmic accompaniment with a steady eighth-note pattern.

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13 *f* stand-ing out-si(de.)* —ah *p*

f stand-ing out - side. How could you let your bro - ther Be on his own at

f stand-ing out - side. How could you let your bro - ther *mp*

8 *f* stand-ing out-si(de.)* —ah *p*

17 *mf* He's on his own a-lone, see, he's on his

mf Christ - mas? He's on his own, he's so a-lone, he's on his own,

8 Be on his own at Christ - mas? he's on his own,

mf He's on his own at Christ - mas, he's on his own at

mf most basses on the lower line

21 *pp* own a-lo(ne.) —oh

p *sotto voce, but incisive* he's so a-lone. Why do we walk so blind-ly? Help us to be more

mf he's so a-lo(ne.) —oh *pp*

8 *p* *sotto voce, but incisive* Christ - mas, Why do we walk so blind-ly? Help us to be more

25 *mf* O-pen the door, o-pen the door, o-pen the door! *f* *gliss.*

kind-ly, *mf* O-pen the door, o-pen the door, *f* o-pen the door!

8 *mf* O-pen the door, o-pen the door, *f* o-pen the door!

mf kind-ly, O-pen the door, o-pen the door, *f* o-pen the door!

* stay on the initial vowel sound (ah) of 'side' and omit the final consonant

30 warmly and smoothly

You are safe, you are warm, But your bro - ther's not; _____

You are safe, you are warm, But your bro - ther's not; _____

He's out there, _____

34 *p leg.* gradual *cresc.* as the number of parts increases -----

Who is your bro - ther? He's there in the

You are safe, you are warm, But your bro - ther's not; _____

You are safe, you are warm, But your bro - ther's not; _____

he's out there, _____

37 -----

street. O - pen your heart to each

You are safe, you are warm,

You are safe, you are warm,

he's out there, he's out there, he's out there, _____

40 -----

per - son you meet; What would it

But your bro - ther's not; _____ You are safe,

But your bro - ther's not; _____ You are safe,

he's out there, he's out there, _____

43

take to make Christ - mas com - plete?

you are warm, But your bro - ther's not;

you are warm, But your bro - ther's not;

he's out there, there, he's out there.

46

What lit - tle thing would make sense of Christ - mas?

What?

What?

What lit - tle thing would make sense² of Christ - mas, tell me that.

48

spend a for - tune on

Is is e - nough that we spend a for - - - tune?

Is is e - nough that we spend a for - - - tune?

Is is e - nough that we spend a for - tune on mere tat?

50

mere tat? Of - fer a gift to the man - ger,

Of - fer a gift to the man - ger, of - fer a gift to the man - ger,

Of - fer a gift to the babe in a man - - - ger,

Of - fer a gift to the man²- ger, of - fer a gift to the man²- ger,

52 *mf*
 O - pen your door to a stran - ger, O - pen you arms to your bro - ther,
mf
 We are safe, we are warm,
mf
 We are safe, we are warm,
mf
 O - pen your door to a stran² - ger, O - pen you arms to your bro² - ther,

54 *f*
 O - pen your heart to a - no² ther, O - pen your door, o - pen your arms,
f
 but our bro - ther's not. O - pen your door, o - pen your arms,
f
 but our bro - ther's not. O - pen your door, o - pen your arms,
f
 O - pen your heart to a - no² ther, O - pen your door, o - pen your arms,

57 *ff* o - pen your hea(rt.) - ah *gliss.* *p*
ff o - pen your heart. *mp* O - pen the door to Christ - mas,
ff o - pen your hea(rt.) - ah *p*
ff o - pen your heart. *mp* O - pen the door to Christ - mas,

60 *mp*
 O - pen the door to your
 O - pen the door, the sea - son's here. *mp* O - pen the
 ah
 O - pen the door, the sea - son's here.

63

bro - ther.

door to your bro - ther.

p O - pen the door to your bro - ther. *Hum*

p Oh, O - pen the door to your bro - ther out - side. *Hum*

Slower, gently swaying ♩ = 72

67

Solo mf*

The door stands o - pen. I step in - to a warmth,

p Wel - come, come in, step in.

p Wel - come, come in, step in.

p Wel - come, - -

72

a warmth I have not known for years. *mp* They

Take ease, sit down, be still. Take, eat, Ah

Take ease, sit down, be still. Take, eat, take, drink,

Take ease, sit down, be still. Take, eat, take, drink,

Take ease, sit down, be still. Take, eat, take, drink,

* Ideally the solo should be sung by a warm-toned mezzo, but it could be a baritone or, at a pinch, if nobody's prepared to take a solo, all the 2nd sopranos or 1st altos.

of-fer me food and drink, but much more than
 We of-fer you warmth and com - fort, be still,
 take ease. We of-fer you food and com - fort, we of-fer you
 take ease. Be still, be calm. Here is warmth and
 take ease. Be still, be calm, be still. We

that,
 take ease. We of-fer you warmth and safe - ty and peace,
 warmth. Be still. Here's warmth and
 com - fort, be still, take ease.
 of - fer you warmth and com - fort, take ease.

they o - pen their hands and they
 Take ease. Wel - come, take, eat, take, drink,
 safe-ty. Wel - come, take, eat, take, drink,
 Here's safe-ty and peace, take eat, be still, we of - fer
 Peace, we of-fer you warmth and safe-ty and peace, take, drink,

88 smile and are glad. *crescendo* -----

take ease. Be at peace. Come

take ease. Sit, sit and rest, you are

warmth and food, sit down and rest, rest in safe - ty,

91 take ease, sit here. Come *f*

in, take warmth from our hearts.

wel - come, sit and rest, take warmth from our hearts.

rest in com - fort, take warmth from our hearts.

in and take warmth from our hearts.

95 *Tempo I*

O - pen the door to Christ - mas, Fling wide the gates, the sea - son's

O - pen the door to Christ - mas, Fling wide the gates, the sea - son's

O - pen the door to Christ - mas, Fling wide the gates in sea - son.

99

O - pen the door to Christ - mas, Fling wide the gates, the rea - son's

here;

here;

O - pen the door to Christ - mas, Fling wide the gates, the rea - son's

103

clear:

O - pen your hearts to Christ - mas, O - pen the door, your bro - ther's

O - pen your hearts to Christ - mas, O - pen the door, your bro - ther's

clear:

107

stand - ing out - si (de.) - aa

stand - ing out - side. Oh, how could you let your bro - - - ther

stand - ing out - side. How could you let your

stand - ing out - si (de.) - aa

110

He's on his own a - lone,

Be on his own at Christ - mas? He's on his own, he's so a - lone,

bro - ther Be on his own at Christ - mas? He's on his

He's on his own at Christ - mas,

114

see, he's on his own a - lo (ne.) - oh

he's on his own, he's so a - lone. Why do we walk so blind - ly?

own, he's so a - lo (ne.) - oh

he's so a - lone at Christ - mas, Why do we walk so blind - ly?

mp sotto voce, but incisive

mp sotto voce, but incisive

118

mf *f*

O - pen the door, o - pen the door,

Help us to be more kind - ly, O - pen the door, o - pen the door,

O - pen the door, o - pen the door,

Help us to be more kind - ly, O - pen the door, o - pen the door,

122 *ff* *gradual dim. to pp at bar 134*

o - pen the door! Who is your bro - ther? He's

o - pen the door! You are safe, you are warm,

o - pen the door! You are safe, you are warm,

o - pen the door! There, _____ he's out there, _____ he's out there,

125

there in the street. O - pen your

But your bro - ther's not; _____ You are safe,

But your bro - ther's not; _____ You are safe,

_____ he's out there, _____ he's out there,

128 *gradual rql. to end of bar 134*

heart to each per - son you meet; What would it

you are warm, But your bro - ther's not; _____ You are safe,

you are warm, But your bro - ther's not; _____ You are safe,

_____ he's out there, _____ he's out there, _____ he's out there,

132 *pp* A little slower

take to make Christ - mas com - plete?
 you are warm, But your bro-ther's not; You are safe,
 you are warm, But your bro-ther's not; You are safe,
 he's out there, he's out there. What would it

136 *p* (solo ad lib.)

What would it take?
 you are warm, But your bro - ther's not;
 you are warm, But your bro - ther's not;
 take to make Christ - mas com plete?—

139 (tutti) *mp* *pp* *molto rall.* *p* warm

O - pen the door to Christ - mas. O - pen the door. Peace.
 O - pen the door to Christ - mas, O - pen the door.
 Ah to Christ - mas, O - pen the door.