

JUDITH SHATIN

Entreat Me

For Solo Voice

Verses 16-17 the Book of Ruth



Program Note

Verses 16 and 17 from *The Book of Ruth*, starting with the words "Entreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee," reflect the deep loyalty of the Moabite, Ruth, to her Israelite mother-in-law Naomi who had lost both her husband and two sons in succession. Naomi tells her daughters-in-law to go home to their mothers in hopes they will find new husbands there. But Ruth instead stays with Naomi and goes with her to Bethlehem. I set these verses for solo voice and tried, through the shaping of the melody, to convey something of the passionate character of the words, with their keening undertone. The music may be transposed depending on the tessitura of the singer.

The Book of Ruth, Verses 16-17

Entreat me not to leave thee,
And to return from following after thee;
For whither thou goest, I will go;
Whither thou lodgest, I will lodge.
Thy people shall be my people
And thy God, my God.

Where thou diest, I will die
And there will I be buried.
The Lord do so to me
And more also
If aught but death part thee and me.

Entreat Me

Book of Ruth, verses 16-17

Judith Shatin

Fervently
mf

Solo Voice

En - treat me not to leave thee,

And to re - turn from fol - low - ing af - ter

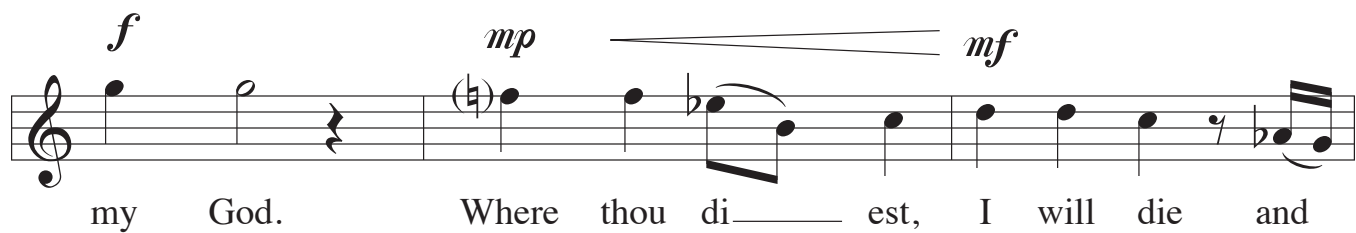
thee, For whith - er thou go - est,

mf

I will lodge. Whith - er thou lod - gest, I will lodge.

Thy peo - ple will be my peo - ple, and thy God

f *mp* *mf*



my God. Where thou diest, I will die and

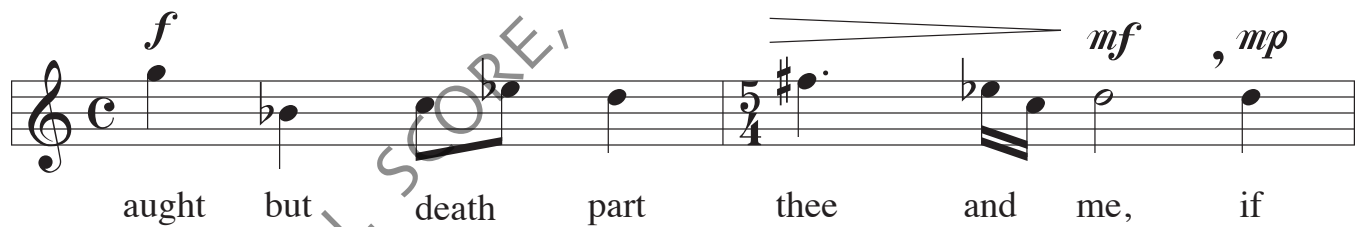


there will I be buried. The Lord do so to



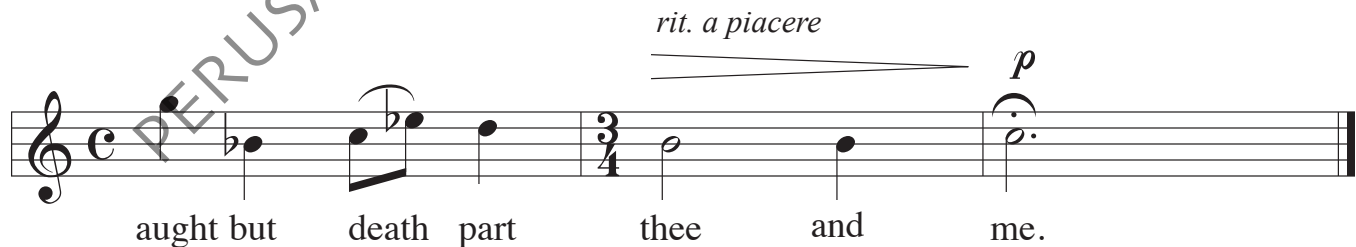
me, and more also if

f *mf* *mp*



aught but death part thee and me, if

rit. a piacere *p*



aught but death part thee and me.