

HP04-05

Eddie Hill

THE FENIX

for SATB div. chorus with soprano solo



text, Anglo Saxon, from the Exeter Book

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

The Fenix

Se sceal þære sunnan sið behealdan
leohte in life
lif butan ende

She shall behold the sun's journey
light in life
life without end

ðone wudu weardaþ, wundrum fæger
fugel feþrum strong, se is fenix haten.
Se sceal þære sunnan sið behealdan
hwonne up cyme eastan glidan
ofer sidne sæ swegles leoma.

in woodland dwells, wondrous fair
bird, feather-strong, who is called Fenix.
She shall behold the sun's journey
When up comes, gliding from the east
over the wide sea, heaven's gleam

Se sceal þære sunnan sið behealdan
leohte in life

She shall behold the sun's journey
light in life

þær se eadga mot eardes neotan,
wyllestreama wuduholcum in,
wunian in wonge, oppæt wintra bið
þusend urnen.

There she enjoys her dwelling place
in the well-streams and the woodland grove,
living in the world, until winter takes
a thousand turns.

and fenix byrneð.
wundrum fæger

and Fenix burns.
wondrous fair

lif butan ende
leohte in life...

life without end
light in life...

Text from the Exeter Book, public domain

GUIDE TO PRONUNCIATION

Pronunciation key:

æ= "A" in "cat"

th= "voiced th," as in "that"

U= like "oo" in "book"

Anglo Saxon key:

þ and ð = "th"

æ= "A" in "cat"

leohte in life

ley-oh-tuh in lee-vuh

Se sceal þære sunnan sið behealdan

suh shéyal thæ-rah sU-nahn sith beh-héyal-dahn

lif butan ende...

leef bU-tahn end-(uh)

ðone wudu weardaþ, wundrum fæger

thoh-nuh wU-doo wehr-dahth, wUn-droom fæ-yer

fugel feþrum strong, se is fenix haten.

fU-gel feth-room strong, suh iz fee-nix hah-ten

hwonne up cyme eastan glidan

hwoh-nuh up cyU-muh éy-as-tahn glee-dahn

ofer sidne sæ swegles leoma.

oh-ver sid-nuh say swey-lehs ley-oh-ma

þær se eadga mot eardes neotan,

thær suh éy-a-dyah moht éy-ar-dehs ney-oh-tahn

wyllestreama wuduholtum in,

wyU-ehs-tré-ya-mah wU-doo-hohl-toom in

wunian in wonge, oppæt wintra bið

wU-nee-ahn in wohn-yuh, oh-thaet wintra bith

þusend urnen.

thU-send Ur-nen.

ond fenix byrneð.

ohnd fee-nix byU-rneth

Commissioned by the Rose Ensemble
with funding provided by the Jerome Foundation
and special support from the Schubert Club.

The Fenix

for the Rose Ensemble

Edie Hill

♩ = c.48 ["The Fenix" should sing from behind an altar or from a side or back balcony (unseen)]

Soprano Solo
(The Fenix)

♩ = c.48 ["Treble choir" is to sing near the back or middle of the space]

Soprano
(with optional Boy Soprano)

[Solo Soprano or boy soprano is to sing from the back or side of the space (apart from the choir)]

Soprano

Alto

Alto

Tenor

♩ = c.48 ["Drone Choir" is to stand in front, singing from or near the altar]

Alto

mp

Tenor

Se sceal þæ-re sun - nan sið be-heal - dan. Se

Baritone

Bass

expressively, full of light

p

leoh - 3 - - -

The musical score is arranged in a system with four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and two piano accompaniment staves. The lyrics are written below the vocal staves. The Soprano part begins with a triplet of notes and the word 'leoh'. The Alto and Tenor parts have lyrics 'seal þæ-re sun - nan sið be-heal - dan (nn)'. The Bass part has lyrics 'Se sceal þæ-re sun - nan sið be-heal - dan (nn)'. Performance instructions include 'stagger breath, seamlessly' with dynamic markings *n* and *p*, and 'mp' for mezzo-piano. There are also asterisks and 'oo' markings on the piano accompaniment staves.

* May be most successful when drone is sung with head voice, or "small-mouthed" oo.

6 *mf* *mp* *f*

S - te leoh ³ - - - te

Solo Soprano or Boy Soprano

S lif bu - tan en - de

A (oo)

T (oo)

B (oo)

B (oo)

n *mp* *n* *mp* *Se* *Se*

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11

mp

leoh - - - te in li -

n *p*

sceal þæ-re sun-nan sið be-heal-dan__ (nn) oo

sceal þæ-re sun-nan sið be-heal-dan__ (nn) oo

(oo)

(oo)

The image shows a page of a musical score, page 4. It features a choir with four parts: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The Soprano part has a vocal line starting at measure 11 with the lyrics "leoh - - - te in li -". The Alto and Tenor parts have vocal lines with lyrics "sceal þæ-re sun-nan sið be-heal-dan__ (nn) oo". The Bass parts have lyrics "(oo)". There is piano accompaniment for the Alto and Tenor parts. A large watermark "FOR PERSUAL ONLY" is overlaid diagonally across the page.

14 *mp*
S - - - fe leoh - 3 - - - te

mf Solo Soprano or Boy Soprano
S lif bu - tan en - de

S *mf* lif bu - tan en -

A *mf* lif bu - tan en -

A *mf* lif bu - tan en -

T

A (oo)

T (oo)

B (oo)

B (oo)



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available for purchase.

23

S

S

["Treble choir" : begin moving towards the front (altar) to join the "drone" group.]

S

lif bu - tan en - de

A

en - de

A

lif bu - - - - - tan

T

lif bu tan en - de

A

(oo) *mp* Se sceal Bæ-re sun-nan (nn)

T

(oo)

B

be-heal-dan nn *mp* *n* *mp* *p* Se sceal Bæ-re sun-nan (nn) (grad. to "oo")

B

(oo)



26

S

[Boy Soprano moves to front (but off to the side) where he will sing towards the end of the piece.]

["Treble choir" continues to move towards the front (altar) joining "Drone choir". All should be in the front, in place by letter

A

S

S

A

A

en - de

T

lif bu - tan en - de

A

(oo) Se sceal þæ-re sun-nan sið be - heal - dan oo.

T

(oo) be - heal - dan (nn)

B

(oo) sið be - heal - dan oo.

B

(oo)



29 *very freely*
p

S leoh - - - te leoh - - - te in li - - - fe

S

S

A

A

T

A *pp* *n*

T *pp* *n*

B *pp* *n*

B *pp* *n*

(oo)

(oo)

(oo)

(oo)

A Dramatically, with wonder and awe

♩ = c.52

33

S
wun - drum fæ - ger

A
p *mf* *p*
ðone wu - du wear - daþ, wun - drum fæ - ger

T
p *mf* *p*
ðone wu - du wear - daþ wun - drum fæ - ger

T
p *mf* *p*
ðone wu - du wear - daþ wun - drum fæ - ger

B
p *mf* *p*
ðone - wu - du wear - daþ wun - drum fæ - ger

35 *poco accel.*

♩ = c.60

S

A
mp *mp* *mf*
fu - gel feþ - rum strong, wun - drum

T
p *mf* *mp* *mf*
se is fe - nix ha - ten. wun - drum

T
p *mf* *mp* *mf*
se is fe - nix ha - ten. wun - drum

B
mp
fu - gel feþ - rum strong,

38

S

A *mp* < *mf* *mp* < *mf* < *f*

wun - drum_ wun - drum fæ - ger_

T *mp* < *mf* *mp* < *mf* < *f*

wun - drum_ wun - drum fæ - ger_

T *mp* < *mf* *mp* < *mf* < *f*

wun - drum_ wun - drum fæ - ger_

B *mf* < *f*

se is fe - nix ha - ten

41

S

A *mp* < *p* < *f*

wun drum se is fe - nix ha - ten.

T *mp* < *p* *p* < *p*

wun - drum fæ - ger_ wun - drum_

T *mp* < *p* *p* < *p*

wun - drum fæ - ger_ wun - drum_

B *mp* < *p* (echo) *p* < *p*

wun - drum fæ - ger_ wun - drum

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available for purchase.

*pulling back
just a bit* ♩ = c.63
like early morning

48

S

S

S

A

A

A

T

T

B

B

n
eas -

p
hwonne up cyme

p
hwonne up cyme

mf
sceal þære sun - nan sið be - heal - dan

p *mf*
Se sceal þære sun - nan sið be - heal - dan

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50

S

S

S (S3) *n* *p*
 eas - tan gli - dan

A *p*
 - tan gli - - - dan

A *mp*
 eas - tan gli - dan up cyme eas - tan gli - dan up

A *mp*
 eas - tan gli - dan up cyme eas - tan gli - dan up

T *p* *mp*
 o - fer sid - ne sae up cyme eas - tan gli - dan

T *p* *mp*
 o - fer sid - ne sae up cyme eas - tan gli - dan

B

B



53

S

S *mp*
 eas - tan gli -

S *mp*
 eas - tan gli -

A *mp*
 eas - tan gli -

A *mf*
 cyme eas - tan gli - dan__ gli - dan__ up cyme eas - tan gli -

A *mf*
 cyme eas - tan gli - dan__ gli - dan up cyme eas - tan gli - dan

T *mf*
 - - - - dan up cyme gli - - - -

T *mf*
 - - - - dan up cyme gli - - - -

B *mp* *mf*
 o - fer sid - ne__ sae__ eas - tan gli - - - -

B *mp* *mf*
 o - fer sid - ne sae__ eas - tan__ gli - dan__



56

S

S *f* dan o - fer sid - ne sæ *ff* sweg - les leo - ma.

S *f* dan o - fer sid - ne sæ *ff* sweg - les leo - ma.

A *f* dan o - fer sid - ne sæ *p sub.* Se

A *f* dan gli - - dan *ff* leo - ma.

A *f* o - fer sid - ne sæ *ff* leo - ma.

T *f* dan *ff* leo - ma.

T *f* dan *ff* leo - ma.

B

B

B

58 sub. ♩=80

S leoh - - - - - te

S ah

S *p sub.* Se sceal þære sun - nan sið be - heal - dan ah

A sceal þære sun - nan sið be - heal - dan ah

A *mp* Se sceal þære sun - nan sið be - heal - dan

A *mp* Se

T

T

B

B

p *f* *mp*

n *mf*

n

n

n

mp

mp

mp



cantabile

mf

f

mp

61

S leoh - - - - - te

S ah

S ah

A ah

A ah

A sceal þære sun - nan sið be - heal - dan ah

T

T

B

B

64 *f* *ff* > *mf*

S leoh - - - - te

S *n* *mf* *n*

S ah

S *mp* *n*

S Se sceal þære sun-nan sið be-heal-dan ah

A *mf* *mp*

A Se sceal þære sun-nan sið be-heal-dan

A *n* *mf* *mp*

A ah Se sceal þære sun-nan sið be-heal-dan

A *n* *mf* *n*

A ah

T

T

B

B

67 *f*

S leoh - - - - te leoh - - - - te

n *mf* *n*

S ah

mp *n*

S ah

n *mf*

A ah

n *mf*

A ah

n *mf* *n* *n*

A ah ah

n *mf* *n*

T ah

T

B

B

70 *mp* *f* *sub. pp* *mf*

S oh oh oh le - oh - - -

S ah

S *mp* *n* *n* *n* ah

A *n* *n* *mp* *n* ah

A *n* *n* *mf* ah

A *mp* *n* ah

T *n* *mp* *n* ah

T *n* ah

B

B

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f *f* *soaring* *ff*

73

S - - - - te leoh - - - - te

n *mp* *n*

S ah

mf *n* *n*

S ah

n *mf* *n*

A ah

n *n* *mf* *n*

A ah

n *mf* *n* *n*

A ah ah

n *mf* *n*

T ah

mf *n* *n* *mf*

T ah

B

B

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76 *mf* *mf*

S in li - fe leoh - - - -

S *n* *mp* *n*
ah

S *mp* *n* *n* *mp*
ah

A *n* *mf* *n*
ah

A *mp* *3* *3* *3* *3*
Se sceal þære sun-nan sið be-heal-dan be-heal-dan

A *mf* *n* *mp* *3*
be-heal-dan

T *n* *mp* *n*
ah

T *n*

B

B

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available for purchase.

82

S - te

S

S

A

A *mf* pær se ead - ga mot ear - des neo - tan wyl - les-trea - ma

A *mf* pær se ead - ga mot ear - des neo - tan wyl - les-trea - ma

T *mf* pær se ead - ga mot ear - des neo - tan wyl - les-trea - ma

T *mf* pær se ead - ga mot ear - des neo - tan wyl - les-trea - ma

B *mf* pær se ead - ga mot ear - des neo - tan wyl - les-trea - ma

B *mf* pær - - se ead - ga mot ear - des neo - tan wyl - les-trea - me

84

S

S *mf* wun - i - an in won - ge,

S *mf* wun - i - an in won - ge,

A *mf* wun - i - an in won - ge,

A *mf* wu - du - hol - tum in, wun - i - an in won - ge,

A *mf* wu - du - hol - tum in, wun - i - an in won - ge,

T *mf* wu - du - hol - tum in, wun - i - an in won - ge,

T *mf* wu - du - hol - tum in, wun - i - an in won - ge,

B *mf* wu - du - hol - tum in, wun - i - an in won - ge,

B wu - du - hol - tum in,

D

87

S

S

S

A

A

A

T

T

B

B

op - þet win - tra bið þu - send ur - nen. — ond

op - þet win - tra bið þu - send ur - nen. — ond

op - þet win - tra bið þu - send ur - nen. — ond

op - þet win - tra bið þu - send ur - nen. — ond fe - nix

op - þet win - tra bið þu - send ur - nen. — ond fe - nix

op - þet win - tra bið þu - send ur - nen. — ond fe - nix

op - þet win - tra bið þu - send ur - nen. — ond fe - nix byr - neð, —

op - þet win - tra bið þu - send ur - nen. — ond fe - nix byr - neð, —

mf *ff*

mf *ff*

90

S

S

S

A

A

A

T

T

B

B

fe - nix byr - neð. —

wun - drum

fe - nix byr - neð. —

wun - drum

fe - nix byr - neð. —

wun - drum

byr - neð. — wun - drum fæ - ger. — ond fe - nix byr - neð. —

byr - neð. — wun - drum fæ - ger. — ond fe - nix byr - neð. —

byr - neð. — wun - drum fæ - ger. —

byr - neð. — wun - drum fæ - ger. —

— fe - nix byr - - - neð. —

— fe - nix byr - - - neð. —

mp

mp

mp

mf

mf

p

p

93 *rall.*

E ♩ = 58 (a little slower)

S

S *p*
fæ - ger

S *p*
fæ - ger

A *p*
fæ - ger

A *very freely p mf p*
lif lif

A *very freely p mf p*
lif lif

T *mp mf mf p*
wun - drum fæ - ger

T *mp mf mf p*
wun - drum fæ - ger

B

B

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available for purchase.

expressively, freely, soaring

105

pp *mp* *pp* *p* *f* *p*

S leoh - - - te leoh - - - te

S

A

T - de.

B

111

mp *f* *p* *mp* *mf* *f* *< mf > p*

cantabile

S leoh - 3 - - - te leoh - - - - - te in li - fe

S

A

T

B



Described as "...bold...radiant, deftly crafted..." (Musical America), Edie Hill's music is performed all over the world. Venues have included Lincoln Center, Met Cloisters (NYC), Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall (NYC), Musis Sacrum in Arnhem, Holland, LA County Museum of Art, Library of Congress, Minneapolis' Walker Arts Center, St. Paul's Schubert Club, Berwald Hall (Stockholm Sweden), Liviu Cultural Center (Romania), Feszek Művészklub (Budapest), St. Peter's Basilica (Vatican City).

A three-time McKnight Artist Fellow and a two-time Bush Artist Fellow, Hill has received grants from the Jerome Foundation, ASCAP, New Music USA, Meet The Composer, Minnesota State Arts Board, Chamber Music America, and was awarded a Doctor of Humane Letters from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. The album, *Born: music of Edie Hill and Michael Gilbertson* won the 2023 GRAMMY® for "Best Choral Performance" for The Crossing (Donald Nally, conductor). She has a B.A. from Bennington College and earned her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees at the University of Minnesota.

Composer in Residence at Schubert Club from 2005-2017, she ran and grew the Mentorship Program for high school composers. She was Composer Mentor for MN Varsity for composers 14-18 years of age co-sponsored by The American Composers Forum and Classical Minnesota Public Radio. She has lectured at colleges, universities and various institutions in the States and abroad.

For Hill, writing music is an opportunity to research, learn, muse, reach down deep, and allow inspiration to come from the stuff of life. Her compositions are fueled by her experiences, passions and curiosities.

for complete biography as well as works for perusal and sale, visit ediehill.com

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