



Sisters in Song

Choral Music
for Women

O God, You Search Me

for SSAA Choir, Harp or Keyboard

Bernadette Farrell

Arranged by Christopher Walker

Based on Psalm 139

INTRO *Peacefully* (♩ = ca. 80)

Harp*

VERSE 1

1. O God, you search me and you know me. All my thoughts lie o-pen to your

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*Keyboard may be used in place of harp.

From the recording
SISTERS IN SONG REJOICE!

Stereo Cassette #11383 Compact Disc #11384

1. gaze. When I walk or lie down you are be - fore me: Ev - er the

1. mak - er and keep - er of my days.

VERSE 2

2. You know my rest - ing and my ris - ing. I dis - cern my pur - pose from a -

2. far, And with love ev - er - last - ing you be - siege me: In ev - 'ry mo - ment of

2. life or death, you are.

VERSE 3

Melody (Solo)

3. Be - fore a word is on my tongue, Lord I have known its mean - ing through and

Harmony
Soprano
Alto

3. Oo Oo

3. through. You are with me be-yond my un-der-stand-ing: God of my

3. Oo Oo

3. pres-ent, my past and fu-ture, too.

3.

VERSE 4

All *mp*

4. Al-though your Spir-it is up-on me I search for shel-ter from your

mp

4. light. There is no - where on earth I can es - cape you: E - ven the

S1 *mp* 3

S2 3

A1 3

A2 *mp* 3

4. dark - ness is ra-diant in your sight.

rit. 3 *mf* *a tempo*

rit. 3 *mf* *div.* *a tempo*

rit. *mf* *p* *a tempo* *gliss.*

VERSE 5

mf

5. For you cre - ed me and shaped me, Gave me

mf

5. life with-in my moth-er's womb. For the won-der of who I am, I

This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "5. life with-in my moth-er's womb. For the won-der of who I am, I". The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in treble and bass clefs, also in one sharp. A large, bold, black letter 'L' is superimposed over the right side of the system.

5. praise you: Safe in your hands, cre-a-tion is made new.

This system contains the next two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics: "5. praise you: Safe in your hands, cre-a-tion is made new." There are triplet markings (the number 3) above several notes. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment. A dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) is present. A large, bold, black letter 'M' is superimposed over the right side of the system.

rall. e dim.

This system contains the final two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line with a long, sweeping melodic line. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment. A dynamic marking of *rall. e dim.* (rallentando e diminuendo) is present. A large, bold, black letter 'S' is superimposed over the right side of the system.

O GOD, YOU SEARCH ME

Bernadette Farrell

Arranged by Christopher Walker

SOLO INSTRUMENT

INTRO Peacefully (♩ = ca. 80)

VERSE 1

10

VERSE 2

VERSE 3

4

7

VERSE 4

7

VERSE 5

Assembly Edition

O GOD, YOU SEARCH ME

Bernadette Farrell

1. O God, you search me and you know me. All my
2. You know my rest-ing and merrisng. You dis-
3. Be-fore a word is spoken, You have
4. Al-though your Spir-it is up-on me, Still I
5. For you cre-at-ed me and shaped me, Gave me

1. thoughts lie o-pen When I
2. cern my pur-pose from a-far, And with
3. known its mean-ing through and through. You are
4. search for shel-ter from light. There is
5. life with-in my moth-er's womb. For the

1. walk or lie down you are Ev-er the
2. love ev-er-last-ing you be-siege me: In ev-'ry
3. with me be-yond my un-der-stand-ing: God of my
4. no-where on earth I can E-ven the
5. won-der of who I am, praise you: Safe in your

1. mak-er and keep-er of my days.
2. mo-ment of life or death you are.
3. pres-ent, my past and fu
4. dark-ness is ra-diant in your sight.
5. hands, all cre-a-tion is made new.

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PERFORMANCE NOTES

This Sisters in Song choral arrangement of Bernadette Farrell's well-loved *O God, You Search Me* can be enhanced with keyboard, using a gentle string tone to support the voices. The harpist should use arpeggiated chords as desired. Vocalists should sing gently, bringing out the meaning of the text and paying attention to the dynamics and tempo indications.

—Christopher Walker