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When the Storms of Life Are Ragin'
SATB Choir and Baritone Solo

arr. Stephen M. Lee



THE SPIRITUALS SERIES



When the Storms of Life Are Ragin'

African-American Spiritual

Arranged by
Stephen M. Lee

FROM THE COLLECTION
Stand by Me: A Celebration of African-American Song
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When the Storms of Life Are Ragin'

(Cry of the Stevedore, Choral Response and Reprise)

African-American Spiritual
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Rubato (♩ = ca. 50)

Baritone Solo

1. When the storms of life are— rag - in', } stand _____ by— me,
 (2. When the) winds of strife are— blow - in', }

1-2. stand _____ by— me, stand _____ by— me! } When the storms of life are— rag - in',
 When the winds of strife are— blow-in',

1-2. stand _____ by— me! Oh Lawd, stand _____ by me! _____ When the _____

Rhythmic

Soprano
Alto

Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd! _____

Tenor
Bass

mp

Stand by me, Lawd! Please stand by me, Lawd! _____ Stand by me, Lawd!

Please stand by me, Lawd! _____

mp *mf*

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f *mf* *mp*

Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd!

f

Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd!

Oh

Oh Lawd! Stand, stand by me! me!

Lawd! Stand by me!

Oh Lawd! Stand, stand by me! me!

Defiant
mf
Baritone Solo

3. When the tide of hate is a ris - in', stand by _

S *mp*
A Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd! _

T
B *mp*

When the Storms of Life Are Ragin'

me! Stand _____ by _____ me! Please

mp *mf*

Stand by me, Lawd! Please stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd!

Please stand by me, Lawd! *mp* *mf*

f

stand _____ by _____ me! When the tide of hate is a

f *mf* *mp*

Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd!

f *mf* *mp*

ris - in', stand _____ by _____ me! Oh

f

Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd!

Oh

When the Storms of Life Are Ragin'

Lawd, stand by me!

Oh Lawd! Stand, stand by me!

Lawd! Stand by me!

Oh Lawd! Stand, stand by me!

4. When all cre - a - tion is a groan in, stand by

mp Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd!

mp

me, stand by me,

mp Stand by me, Lawd! Please stand by me, Lawd! *mf* Stand by me, Lawd!

Please stand by me, Lawd!

mp *mf*

stand _____ by _____ me. When all cre - a - tion is a

f *mf* *mp*

Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd!

groan - in', stand _____ by _____ me! Oh

f

Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd! Stand by me, Lawd!

Oh

Lawd, stand _____ by _____ me!

Oh Lawd! Stand, stand by me!

Lawd! Stand _____ by _____ me!

Oh Lawd! Stand, stand by me!

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Composer Notes

Historically, persons of African descent were often forced to work as stevedores, i.e., longshoremen or dockers, along river systems and upon the coastal waters of the American shores. They loaded and unloaded ships, singing while they worked. The use of song to undergird work, the activities of daily living, community rituals, and rites of passage is a noted African survival.

The title is inspired by the first line of Charles Albert Tindley's "Stand by Me," and the tune is inspired by the African-American spiritual "Soon-a Will Be Done."

—*Stephen M. Lee*

Preview

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