

Mystical Hope

Commissioned by the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir
Jean-Sébastien Vallée, artistic director
for SATB Voices *a cappella* with divisi

Robert Pynn, 2013
from 'Writing the Wind'

Stephanie Martin, 2025

Bleak ♩=100

Soprano
They spoke of hope. I did be - lieve them, once,

Alto
They spoke, They spoke of hope. I did be - lieve them, once,

Tenor
They spoke, of hope. I did be - lieve them, once,

Bass
They spoke, spoke of hope. I did be - lieve them, once,

7

rit...

be-fore dark - ness cov-ered my earth, the fu-ture bled from my soul.

be-fore dark - ness cov-ered my earth, the fu-ture bled from my soul.

be-fore dark - ness cov-ered my earth, the fu-ture bled from my soul.

be-fore dark - ness cov-ered my earth, the fu-ture bled from my soul.

15 *mp*
 High walls, low ceil - ings, closed doors held back the air; closed
mp
 High walls, low ceil - ings, closed doors held back the air; closed
 8 High walls, low ceil - ings, closed
mp
 High walls, low ceil - ings, closed

20 *p* sotto voce *mp*
 doors held back the air; I lay breath-less, cling - ing to my
p sotto voce *mp*
 doors held back the air; I lay breath-less, cling - ing,
p sotto voce *mp*
 doors held back the air; I lay breath-less, cling - ing to my
p sotto voce *mp*
 doors held back the air; I lay breath-less, cling - ing to my

25 *mp*
 tor - ment. They had to beat down my door,
mp
 cling-ing to my tor- ment. They had to beat down my door,
mf
 tor ment. tor-ment. They had to beat down my door, had to beat down my
mf
 tor-ment. tor-ment. They had to beat down my door, had to beat down my

31 *mf*

They had to beat down my door, pull me in-to the light, pull me in-to the light, re-

mf

They had to beat down my door, pull me in-to the light, pull me in-to the light, re-

door, had to beat down my door, had to beat down my door, had to re-

door, had to beat down my door, had to beat down my door, had to re-

Peaceful,
slightly slower $\text{♩} = 90$
p

36 *f*

vive my will to breathe on my own. That day I slowly rose to my

f *p*

vive my will to breathe on my own. That day I slowly rose to my

f *p*

vive my will to breathe on my own. That day I slowly rose to my

f *p*

vive my will to breathe on my own. That day I slowly rose to my

44

feet and felt a strong cur - rent of air run - ning through me,
 feet and felt a cur - rent of air, a cur - rent of air run - ning
 feet and felt a strong cur - rent of
 feet and felt a strong cur - rent of air

47

Allargando

air through me, I real - ized it had al - ways been there,
 through me, through me, I real - ized it had al - ways been there, it was
 air run - ning through me, I real - ized it had al - ways been there,
 run - ning through me, I real - ized it had al - ways been there,

53

mp

it was hope_____ run-ning through me, un fet-tered by my de-sires.

hope_____ run-ing through me, run ning through me, un fet-tered by my de-sires.---

mp

it was hope run-ning, run - ning through me, un fet-tered by my de - sires.---

it was hope run-ning through me, un fet-tered by my de-sires.

60

p

Hope, I sense your in-ner son - ar guid-ing me t'ward my true dest - i-

p

Hope, I sense your in - ner so - nar guid-ing me t'ward my true dest - i-

p

Hope, I sense your in-ner son - ar guid-ing me t'ward my true dest - i-

p

Hope, I sense your in - ner son - ar guid-ing me t'ward my true dest - i-

Hope, Hope, guid ing me t'ward my true dest - i-

67

ny. Myst-ic-al pre - sence in - ti - mate - ly at hand, per - sist - ing through shat - tered dreams,

ny. Myst-ic-al pre - sence in - ti - mate - ly at hand, per - sist - ing through shat - tered dreams,

ny. Myst-ic-al pre - sence in - ti - mate - ly at hand, per - sist - ing through shat - tered dreams,

ny. Myst-ic-al pre - sence in - ti - mate - ly at hand, per - sist - ing through shat - tered dreams,

73

meet me in my truth— hold, _____ hold

meet me in my truth— hold _____ me, hold _____

meet me in my truth— , hold _____ me, hold _____

meet me in my truth— hold _____ me, hold _____

79

rit. *mp*

me in com - mun - ion with your bo - dy of love.

me in com - mun - ion with your bo - dy of love.

me in com - mun - ion with your bo - dy of love.

me in com - mun - ion with your bo - dy of love.

4 minutes.
SJM Toronto, August, 2025

*Robert Pynn's poem written for the Alberta Adolescent Recovery Centre.
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