

The Star-Spangled Banner

Francis Scott Key

arr. Larry Minton

SA

Maestoso ♩ = 76

Soprano

Alto

Piano

mf O say, can you see by the dawn's ear - ly

f *mf*

9

S. light, What so proud - ly we hail'd at the twi - light's last gleam - ing, Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the

A. light, What so proud - ly we hail'd at the twi - light's last gleam - ing, Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the

Pn.

16

S. per - il - ous fight O'er the ram - parts we watch'd were so val - lant - ly stream - ing? And the roc - ket's red

A. per - il - ous fight O'er the ram - parts we watch'd were so gal - lant - ly stream - ing? And the roc - ket's red

Pn.

mf *f*

23

S. glare, the bomb burst - ing in air Gave proof through the night that our flag was still

A. glare, the bomb burst - ing in air Gave proof through the night that our flag was still

Pn.

7

29

S. there. *f* O say, does that star - span - gled ban - ner yet wave O'er the

A. there. *f* O say, does that star - span - gled ban - ner yet wave O'er the

Pn.

34

S. land of the free and the home of the brave?

A. land of the free and the home of the brave?

Pn.

SAB39 *Maestoso* ♩ = 76

S. *mf* O say, can you see by the dawn's ear - ly

A. *mf* O say, can you see by the dawn's ear - ly

B. can you see by the dawn's ear - ly

Pn. *f* *mf*

47

S. light, What so proud - ly we hail'd at the twi - light's last gleam - ing, Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the

A. light, What so proud - ly we hail'd at the twi - light's last gleam - ing, Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the

B. light What so proud - ly we hail'd at the twi - light's last gleam - ing, and bright stars through the

Pn.

54

S. per - il - ous fight O'er the ram - parts we watch'd were so val - lant - ly stream - ing? And the roc - ket's red *mf*

A. per - il - ous fight O'er the ram - parts we watch'd were so gal - lant - ly stream - ing? And the roc - ket's red *f*

B. per - il - ous fight O'er the ram - parts we watch'd were so gal - lant - ly stream - ing?

Pn.

61

S. glare, the bomb burst - ing in air Gave proof through the night that our flag was still

A. glare, the bomb burst - ing in air Gave proof through the night that our flag was still

B. the bomb burst - ing in air Gave proof through the night that our flag was still

Pn.

67

S. there. *f* O say, does that star - span - gled ban - ner yet wave O'er the

A. there. *f* O say, does that star - span - gled ban - ner yet wave O'er the

B. there. O say, does that star - span - gled ban - ner yet wave O'er the

Pn.

72

S. land of the free and the home of the brave?

A. land of the free and the home of the brave?

B. land of the free and the home of the brave?

Pn.

The Star-Spangled Banner in B flat

SA

Maestoso ♩ = 76

Soprano

Alto

Piano

mf O say, can you

f

mf

7

S.

A.

Pn.

see by the dawn's ear - ly light, What so proud - ly we hail'd at the twi - light's last

see by the dawn's ear - ly light, What so proud - ly we hail'd at the twi - light's last

13

S. gleam - ing, Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the per - il - ous fight O'er the

A. gleam - ing, Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the per - il - ous fight O'er the

Pn.

18

S. ram - parts we watche'd were so val - lant - ly stream - ing? And the roc - ket's red

A. ram - parts we watche'd were so gal - lant - ly stream - ing? And the roc - ket's red

Pn.


23

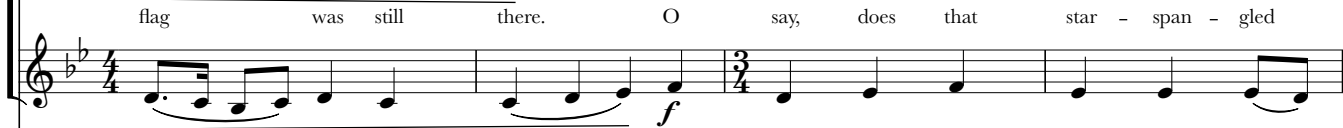
S. glare, the bomb burst - ing in air Gave proof through the night that our


A. glare, the bomb burst - ing in air Gave proof through the night that our

Pn.


28

S. 
 flag was still there. *f* O say, does that star - span - gled

A. 
 flag was still there. *f* O say, does that star - span - gled

Pn. 

32

S. 
 ban - ner yet wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the

A. 
 ban - ner yet wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the

Pn. 

37

S. 
 brave?

A. 
 brave?

Pn. 

SAB

39

Maestoso ♩ = 76

S. *mf* O say, can you see by the

A. *mf* O say, can you see by the

B. can you see by the

Pn. *f* *mf*

46

S. dawn's ear - ly light, What so proud - ly we hail'd at the twi - light's last

A. dawn's ear - ly light, What so proud - ly we hail'd at the twi - light's last

B. daw's ear - ly light What so proud - ly we hail'd at the twi - light's last

Pn.

51

S. gleam - ing, Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the per - il - ous fight O'er the

A. gleam - ing, Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the per - il - ous fight O'er the

B. gleam - ing, and bright stars through the per - il - ous fight O'er the

Pn.

56

S. ram - parts we watche'd were so val - lant - ly stream - ing? *mf* And the roc - ket's red

A. ram - parts we watche'd were so gal - lant - ly stream - ing? *f* And the roc - ket's red

B. ram - parts we watch'd were so gal - lant - ly stream - ing?

Pn.

61

S. glare, the bomb burst - ing in air Gave proof through the night that our

A. glare, the bomb burst - ing in air Gave proof through the night that our

B. the bomb burst - ing in air Gave proof through the night that our

Pn.

66

S. flag was still there. *f* O say, does that star - span - gled

A. flag was still there. *f* O say, does that star - span - gled

B. flag was still there. O sat, does that star - span - gled

Pn.

70

S.

ban - ner yet wave O'er the

A.

ban - ner yet wave O'er the

B.

ban - ner yet wave O'er the

Pn.

72

S.

land of the free and the home of the brave?

A.

land of the free and the home of the brave?

B.

land of the free and the home of the brave?

Pn.

Notes on **The Star-Spangled Banner**

The text of the National Anthem of the United States of America was written on September 14, 1814 by Francis Scott Key (1779-1843), after watching the British Navy's bombardment of Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Maryland. Its metre matched a popular English song, and with that melody was officially selected as the National Anthem in 1914.

Ever since, the song has generated controversy. Some considered it too difficult to sing (although few actual singers agree). Others think it sounds too military. Most recently, lyrics in the never-sung third verse referring to British "hirelings and slaves" have been called racist. This view ignores the facts that:

- Not all slaves, worldwide, were Black;
- Colonial subjects of the British Empire were considered "slaves" during and after the Revolution, particularly those conscripted into the military, so the term is combined with "hirelings" (mercenaries such as the Hessians);
- The forces of both sides included free Black soldiers, and those on the American side volunteered, while those fighting for Britain were promised freedom after their service.

Some contend that "America the Beautiful" is more suitable. However, if you change a few physical features, it could be any nation ("O beautiful for snowy skies, for pale green tundra hills... Siberia, Siberia, God gave great cold to thee...").

"The Star-Spangled Banner" is uniquely American. Its closing stanza asks whether this flag still flies above a nation dedicated to the freedom of all, with the courage to struggle through great hardships to achieve the ideals of its founders. Singing it should remind all Americans, regardless of ethnicity or religion, that it is our own responsibility to live our lives so those ideals will prevail.