

SIMPLE GIFTS

Verse 1: traditional
Verses 2-3: JOYCE MERMAN

(S.A.T.B. and Piano)*

Shaker hymn
Adapted and arranged by
JOHN COATES, Jr.

Slowly (♩ = ca. 72)

TENORS ONLY

mp

(A)

1. 'Tis the gift to be sim - ple, 'tis the

PIANO

mp sempre legato

p

(Ped.)

(T.)

(*mp*)

gift to be free, 'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be; (B.) And

(no pedal)

(B)

when we find our - selves_ in the place just_ right, 'Twill be in the val - ley of

mp

tru - ly be

Performance time: approx. 3:30

*Also available for SAB - D0215 and 2-Part - E0184

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SOPRANOS
ALTO
(Tenors)
(Basses)

mf

When true sim - plic - i - ty is gained, To
love and de-light.

cresc. *mf*

Pedal with discretion.

bow and to bend we — shan't be a - shamed;
To turn, turn will

mp

mp

© D

be our de - light, Till by turn - ing, turn - ing we come out right.

mf *mp*

mf *mp*

2/4 4/4

SOP, SOLO (or small group) *p* **(E)**

2. 'Tis the gift to be gen-tle, 'tis the gift to be fair, 'Tis the

(S.) *pp*

(A.)

(T.)

(B.)

f *mp* *pp*

(F)

gift to wake and breathe the morn-ing air; And ev - 'ry day to walk_in the

mp *pp*

mp *pp*

path we

(G)

mp

When

mp

Pedal with discr

fair, 'Tis the

path we_choose, 'Tis the gift that we pray we may ne'er come to lose.

mm

cresc. poco a poco

alk_in the

Ⓒ

mp

When true sim - plic - i - ty is gained, To bow and to bend we _

mp

Pedal with discretion.

p (H) *mp*

To turn, turn will be our de-light, Till by

pp *p*

mm

pp *p*

shan't be a-shamed;

pp *p*

p

turn - ing, turn - ing we come out right.

pp *mm*

pp *mp*

pp cresc. poco a poco *mp*

Shaker hymn
ed and arranged by
N COATES, Jr.

n - ple, 'tis the

(T.)
(mp)

u be; (B.) And

e val - ley of

TN 37212
ed

(S.) (A.) (T.) (B.)

(unis.) **mp** ①

3. 'Tis the gift to be lov - ing, 'tis the best gift of all, Like a

(unis.) **mp**

p

(T.) (mp)

qui - et rain, it bless - es where it falls; And if we have the gift, — we will

(B.) And with it we will

mp

(no pedal)

tru - ly be - lieve 'Tis — bet - ter to give than it is to re - ceive.

mf (div.) (S. div.) rit. — — —

When true sim - plic - i - ty is gained, To bow and to bend we —

A little faster (♩ = ca. 88) rit. — — —

Tempo I (♩ = ca. 72) *mp* (L) (S. div.) rit. — — — *f* Very slowly

shan't be a - shamed; To turn, — — — turn — — — will be our de - light, Till by

Tempo I (♩ = ca. 72) rit. — — — *sfz* Very slowly

mf (S. ums.) *molto rit.* (S. opt. div.)* *p* *ppp*

turn - ing, turn - ing we come — out — — — right.

mf *molto rit.* (B. div.) *p* *ppp*

*If divisi is used, only a few voices should sing the D (with most Sopranos remaining on the G).

