

THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER

words by Nat Burton

music by Walter Kent

arranged for SATB by James Robertson

DO NOT COPY

It is often said that no matter how good an arrangement might be, it can never be better than the original composition. For example, when we hear a song for the first time, the memory and association of that experience remain vivid and poignant; perhaps nostalgic. This choral arrangement of the classic wartime song 'The White Cliffs of Dover' does not pretend to emulate the original version with which we are all familiar. Quite simply, that would not be possible. The gentle, almost free-flowing interpretation made famous by Dame Vera Lynn cannot be surpassed. My aim, therefore, has been to approach this song from a different angle. The words "love and laughter" suggest a feeling of unbridled joy and an element of humour. It is this aspect that I have chosen to focus on and thereby allow a sense of carefree fun to be felt by those performing and listening to this version. Likewise, I have taken certain liberties with the words by adding some of my own. Yet the final two words of this arrangement – "With peace" – serve to remind us of the sacrifice that so many paid in ensuring that this can indeed be experienced by those of us today.

James Robertson.

The White Cliffs of Dover

Nat Burton

Walter Kent/arr. James Robertson

Allegro ♩ = 132

mf

Soprano
Go-ing o-ver cliffs of Do-ver, love and laugh-ter e-ver af-ter, Go-ing o-ver cliffs of Do-ver,

Alto
mf
Is it a blue-bird up in the sky?

Tenor

Bass

7

S.
love and laugh-ter e - ver af - ter, Go - ing o - ver cliffs of Do - ver,

A.
I see it soa - ring, fly-ing so high. Is it a blue - bird up in the sky?..

T.
mf
O-ver Do-ver, o-ver Do-ver, o-ver Do-ver, o-ver Do-ver,

B.

11

S.
love and laugh - ter e - ver af - ter. Peace. *p*

A.
I see it soa - ring, fly-ing so high. Peace. *p*

T.
o-ver Do-ver, o-ver Do-ver, o-ver Do-ver, o-ver Do-ver. Peace. *p*

B.
mf And peace. *p* Peace. *p*

18 *mp*

S. *mp*
Go - ing_ o - ver,_ white cliffs of Do - ver,_ Go - ing_ o - ver,

A. *mp*
Go - ing_ o - ver,_ white cliffs of Do - ver,_ Go - ing_ o - ver,

T. *mp*
Go - ing_ o - ver,_ white cliffs of Do - ver,_ Go - ing_ o - ver,_

B. *mp*
Go-ing o - ver,

24 *mf*

S. *mf*
There'll be blue - birds o-ver the white cliffs of Do - ver, to - mo - rrow,

A. *mf*
white cliffs of Do-ver. Blue-birds o - ver white cliffs of Do - ver, just you

T. *mf*
white cliffs of Do-ver. Blue-birds o - ver white cliffs of Do - ver, just you

B. *mf*
white cliffs of Do-ver. Blue-birds o - ver white cliffs of Do - ver, just you

31

S. just you wait and see. ha-haugh - ter, peace e - ver af-

A. wait, go-ing o - ver cliffs of Do - ver now, ha-haugh - ter, peace e - ver af-

T. wait, go-ing o - ver cliffs of Do - ver now, ha-haught - ter, peace e - ver af-

B. wait, There'll be love and laugh-ter and peace e - ver

37

S. *mp*
- ter, when the world is free as free can be. Oo

A. *mp*
- ter, when the world is free as free can be. Oo

T. *mf*
- ter, when the world is free. The shep-herd will tend his

B. *mp*
af - ter, to - mor - row when the world is free. Oo

44

S. — sheep safe-ly gra — zing, Oo - bloo-ming a - ma - zing, —

A. — sheep safe-ly gra - zing, Oo - bloo-ming a - ma - zing, —

T. sheep, the val-ley will bloom a - gain, and Ji-mmy will

B. — sheep safe-ly gra - zing, Oo - bloo-ming a - ma - zing, —

51

S. *rit. p* sleep, — *A tempo mp*

A. *rit. p* sleep, — Is it a blue-bird

T. *mp rit.* *Slower tempo solo*
go to sleep, — in my own li - ttle room a - gain.

B. *p rit.* sleep, —

58

S. *mp*
Go - ing o - ver

A. up in the sky?_ I see it soa - ring, fly-ing so high. Is it a blue - bird

T. *tutti mp*
O-ver Do-ver, o-ver Do-ver, o-ver Do-ver, o-ver Do-ver,

B.

62

S. cliffs of Do - ver, love and laugh - ter e - ver af - ter,

A. up in the sky?_ I see it soa - ring, fly-ing so high,

T. o - ver Do-ver, o-ver Do-ver, o - ver Do-ver, o - ver Do-ver, o - ver Do-ver, o - ver Do-ver,

B. *mp*
And peace,

66

S. *f*
There'll be blue - birds o-ver the white cliffs of Do-

A. *f*
going o-ver Do-ver. Blue-birds o - ver white cliffs of

T. *f*
going o-ver Do-ver. Blue-birds o - ver white cliffs of

B. *f*
and peace. Blue-birds o - ver white cliffs of

72

S. - ver, to - mo - row, just you wait and see.

A. Do - ver, just you wait, just you wait, oh just you wait and see.

T. Do - ver, just you wait, just you wait, oh just you wait and see.

B. Do - ver, just you wait, There'll be love and

78

S. ha-haugh-ter, peace e - ver af - ter, when the world is

A. ha-haugh-ter, peace e - ver af - ter, when the world is

T. ha-haugh-ter, peace e - ver af - ter, when the world is

B. laugh-ter and peace e - ver af - ter, to - mor - row when the world is

83

S. go - ing_ o - ver,_ white cliffs of Do - ver,_ with peace. *mp*

A. go - ing_ o - ver,_ white cliffs of Do - ver,_ with peace. *mp*

T. go - ing_ o - ver,_ white cliffs of Do - ver,_ with peace. *mp*

B. free. with peace. *mp*