

A True Hymne

J. Guy Stalnaker

George Herbert

My Joy, My Life, My Crown!
My heart was meaning all the day,
Somewhat it fain would say;
And still it runneth mutt'ring up and down,
with only this, My Joy, My Life, My Crown!

Yet slight not these few words;
If truly said, they may take part
Among the best in art.
The finenesse which a hymne or psalme affords,
Is, when the soul unto the lines accords.

He who craves all the minde,
And all the soul, and strength, and time,
If the words onely ryme,
Justly complains, that somewhat is behinde
To make his verse, or write a hymne in kinde.

Whereas if th'heart be moved,
Although the verse be somewhat scant,
God doth supplie the want.
As when th' heart says, (sighing to be approved,)
O, could I love! and stops: God writeth, Loved.

Copyright © 2018 by CPDL
This edition can be fully distributed,
duplicated, performed, and recorded
If this work is performed, recorded, etc.
please let the composer know by email:
guy.stalnaker@gmail.com

A True Hymne

George Herbert

J. Guy Stalnaker

Soprano
Alto

$\text{♩} = 86$

1. My Joy, My Life, My Crown! My heart was mean-ing all the
 2. Yet slight not these few words; If tru - ly said, they may take
 3. He who craves all the minde, And all the soul, and strength, and
 4. Where-as if th'heart be moved, Al - though the verse be some - what

Tenor
Bass

6

day, Some - what it fain would say; And still it run - neth mutt - 'ring up and
 part A - mong the best in art. The fine - nesse which a hymne or psalme af -
 time, If the words one - ly ryme, Just - ly com - plains, that some - what is be -
 scant, God doth sup - plie the want. As when th' heart says, sigh-ing to be ap -

11

down, with on - ly this, My Joy, My Life, My Crown!
 fords, Is, when the soul un - to the lines ac - cords.
 hinde To make his verse, or write a hymne in kinde.
 proved, O, could I love! and stops: God writ - eth, Loved.