



NICHOLAS NG

# The Honey-white Black-stump

## Koori-kid

For SATB *a cappella* choir



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**The Honey-white Black-stump Koori-kid**, for SATB *a capella* choir.

Duration: *ca* 12 minutes

First performed by The Australian Voices (TAV) at The Australian Voices Festival in the Theatre of the Queensland Conservatorium, 2002. Awarded an Equal High Commendation at The Australian Voices Young Composer Award 2002 and currently part of TAV repertoire.

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# The Honey-white Black-stump Koori-kid

for SATB *a cappella* choir



based on text by

ROBERTSON FOX

**O**H SIR we would see, in our Colony  
The paperbark white-snow Jesus-child,  
As bushfire candles blaze  
On our evergreen blue-gum Christmas trees.

Queen Majesty from across the sea,  
Do you honour our Rainbow serpent dreamline Koori prince?

Kind sir, we send to thee from our Colony  
The honey-white black-stump Koori-kid,  
As hosts of angel gliders in the Southern Cross sky  
Sing of a holy summer paddock with a brumby and a dingo by a virgin gin.

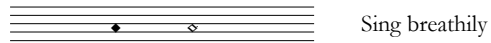
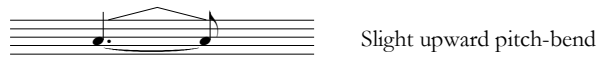
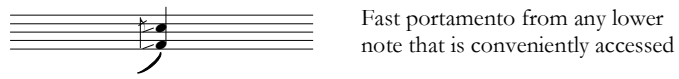
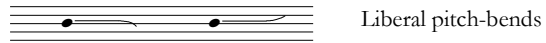
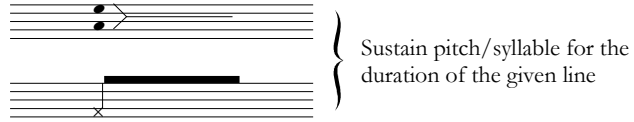
What do people bring across the Nullabor,  
Down the Birdsville track from the gentle outback,  
As gifts for the paperbark honey white-snow black-stump Koori-kid?

A wise camel train of Kalgoorlie gold!  
A billy-can of fragrant tea-tree oil  
And the bitter ashes from the Thursday fires

For the paperbark honey white-snow black-stump Koori-kid.

Roberston Fox  
January, 2000  
Hazelbrook, Australia

# LEGEND



for Murray Robertson

# The Honey-white Black-stump Koori-kid

for SATB a capella choir

**Deep and sonorous**

Soprano *ppp* Mmm

Alto *pp* *<voiced (spoken)>* *whispered ad lib.>*  
Wul - ya wul - ya wul - ya wul - ya wul

Tenor *pp* *<voiced (spoken)>* *whispered ad lib.>*  
Wul - ya wul - ya wul - ya wul - ya ya

Bass *ppp* Mmm

1" etc.

6

S

A *mp* *pp*  
wul - - - - - l

T *mp* *pp* *<ad lib.>* *pp*  
ya - - - - - a(h) a - - -

B *ppp* dry and gravelly  
ah ah

12

S

A

T *<to nothing>* *pp*  
wul - - - - - ya a - - -

B *<to nothing>*  
ah

\* Entries may be slightly out of phase until Bar 18 (Section A).

A Andante, jubilant ♩ = 81

16

S wul - ya a -

A wul - ya a -

T wul - - - ya a - - - wul - ya a(h) -

B a - - - - wul - ya a(h) -

20

S wul

A wul

T a - - - wul

B a - - - wul

24 ♩ = 108 <non. vib.> fp

S ya!

A ya! Sss

T ya! Sss

B a - - - ul - ya a - - - wul - ya a - wul - ya a - wul -

<non. vib., breathe when necessary>

28 *mp* *f* *dim.* *p* B <to nothing>

S *Sss*

A *f* <to nothing, non vib.> *mp* with innocent anticipation

T *f* *dim.* *p* <to nothing>

B wul a(h) ya wul

ya a - wul - ya a(h) ya wul a(h) ya

33

S

A *f* *dim.*

T *f* *dim.*

B a(h) ya wul *f* <unis.> *dim.*

ny The pa - per - bark white - snow Je - sus - child

Je - - - - - sus -

wul wul wul Je - - - - - sus -

37 *mp* *sfz* *p* *mp*

S *port.*

A *mf* *mp* *sfz* *p* *mp*

T *mf* *mp* *sfz* *p* *mp*

B *mf* *mp* *sfz* *p* *mp*

As bush - fire can - dles blaze On our

As bush - fire can - dles blaze On our

- child As bush - fire can - dles blaze On our

- - - - child As bush - fire can - dles blaze On our



41

S e - ver blue, blue - gu - - - m Christ - mas tree - - -

A green, green - - - gu - - - m Christ - mas tree - - -

T green, green - - - gu - - - m Christ - mas tree - - -

B blue, blue - gu - - - m Christ - ma - - -

*fp* *mp* *f* <non vib. → vib.>

45

S - - - s do you,

A - - s Queen Ma - jes - ty

T - - s cross the sea, Ma - jes - ty, Do you

B - - s from a - cro - - - ss Do do you

*mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f* <no breath>

C ♩ = 54

49

S ah s - ser - pe - - - - n - t

A ah ho - nour our s - ser - pe - n - t Koo - - - ri, Koo -

T ho - nour our ho - nour our Rain - bow ser - pent dream - line Koo - ri prince Koo - ri, Koo -

B ah

*f* *dim.* *mp* *f* *ff* *dim.* *p* *f* *p*

53 D  $\bullet = 81$  *f* *p*

S Kind sir, we send to thee from our Co - lo - ny The ho - ney -

A ri prince *mf* *dim.* *p* Co - lo - ny The ho - ney -

T — Koo - ri prin - - - ce *sf* *mf* *mf* *dim.* *p* Co - lo - ny The ho - ney -

B *sf* *mf* sir! ah

56 *cresc.* *f* <sup>2</sup>

S white black-stump Koo - ri - kid As hosts of an - gel gli - ders in the

A white black-stump Koo - ri - kid gli - ders in the

T white black Koo - ri - kid gli - ders in the -

B white black *p* *cresc.* *f* <sup>2</sup> Koo - ri - kid gli - ders in the

60

S south - ern cross sky Sing of a

A ah *<molto vib.>* *<nat.>* *dim.* *mp* Sing sing of a ho - ly sum - mer

T ah *<molto vib.>* *<nat.>* *dim.* *p* <sup>3</sup> *cresc.* <sup>3</sup> *<ad lib.>* Sing sing a - - -

B ah *<non. vib.>* *>molto vib.>* *dim.* *p* <sup>3</sup> *cresc.* <sup>3</sup> Sing sing ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly

64 *mf* *f*

S Sing of a ho - ly sum - mer pad - dock with a brum - by and

A *p* ya ya ya  
wul wul wul

T *fp* *ad lib.*  
wul ya

B *f* *fp*  
ho - ly ho - ly wul wul wul

68

S a din - go

A ya *unis.* *non vib.* *vib.*  
wul by a vir - gi - n gi - - -

T *mp*  
vir - gi -

B *mp*  
ya ya ya ya vir - gi -

72 *p* *mf* *ad lib.*

S ah ya!

A *mf* n sss

T *ff* n vir - gin

B *ff* *f* *dry and gravelly* *dim.*  
n vir - gin What do What - do

76 *p* *f* *molto dim.*

S *sss*

A

T *mp*  
What do peo - ple bring a - cross the Nul - la

B *p* *dry and gravelly*  
peo - ple What do what do a - - - cross Nul - la -

80 *p* *3* *3* *3* *sf* *p*

S Ah

A *pp* *p* *3* *3* *3* *sf* *p*  
a - wul - ya. Ah

T *3* *sf* *p* *mf*  
bor? Ah do the peo - ple

B *3* *sf* *p* *mp*  
bor? Ah what do

84 *mf* *molto dim.* *p*

S *sss* Ah

A *pp* *p* *3* *3* *3*  
a - wul - ya a - wul - ya. Ah

T *3* *<unis.>* *p* *<unis.>* *3*  
bring a - - - cross the Nul - la - bor? Ah

B *p*  
what do do Ah

88

S *f* *pf*

A *mf* 3 *f* legato

T *mf* *f* legato

B *mf* (*mf*)

the peo-ple bring bring\_ bring a - cross\_ the Nul - la -

the peo-ple bring bring\_ bring a - cross\_ the Nul - la -

what do what do peo - ple bring a - cross Nul - la -

92

S *f*

A \* *mf* 3 3 *f* 3 3 *dim.* *mp* 2

T \* *mf* 3 3 *f* 3 3 *dim.* *mp* 2

B *mf* *f* *dim.* *mp* *sf*

Nul - la - - - bo - - - or\_

bo - or\_ ah\_

bo - or\_ ah\_

bor\_ ah\_ sss\_

97

S *p* *sf* *mp* *f*

A *p* *sf* *mp* *f*

T *p* *sf* *mp* *f*

B *p* *sf* *mp* *f*

down, down\_ Birds

down, down the\_ Birds - ville the ville

down, down the\_ Birds - ville track

down track

\* With staggered breathing if necessary

102

*f* *sweetly* *dim.* *mf* *mf*

S track from gen - tle out - back?

A from gen - tle, the gen - - - tle, gen - tle out - back?

T the gen - tle out gen - tle, gen - tle out - back? from the

B out out - back?

107

*rallen.* *mp* *dim.* *p* *< poco >* *< ad lib. >*

S gen - tle gen - tle

A *mp* *dim.* *p* *< poco >* *pp* *deadly sombre*  
gen - tle gen - tle gen - tle

T *mp* *dim.* *p* *< poco >* *pp* *deadly sombre*  
gen - tle out - back? from the gen - - - tle gen - tle

B *mp* *dim.* *p* *< poco >* *pp* *deadly sombre*  
gen - tle gen - tle gen - tle

111

G **Tempo rubato** ♩ = ca. 54 *p*

S A

A *< aspirated >*  
out - - - ba ck?

T *< aspirated >* *p*  
out - - - ba ck? Mmm

B *< aspirated >* *p*  
out - - - ba ck? Mmm

115

S  
-s A s

A

T  
ya wul - ya wul - - - ya

B  
ya wul - ya wul - - - ya

119

*molto. rit.* H **Tempo** ♩ = 81

S  
As gifts for the pa-per pa-per bark

A  
pa-per pa-per bark

T  
ah ho-ney

B  
ah

123

*mf* *cresc. poco a poco* -----

S  
black-stu - - - mp child child kid Koo-ri, a -

A  
white-snow Je-sus-child Je-sus Je-sus-child child kid Koo-ri, a -

T  
white Koo-ri-kid Koo-ri-kid Koo-ri-kid Koo-ri-kid

B  
white black-stu - - - mp child Koo-ri-kid Koo-ri-kid Koo-ri-kid Koo-ri-kid

127 *ff* *p* *f* *sub. p*

S — wul - ya, a - wul - ya! A - wul - - - ya, mmm-  
*ff* *p* *f* *sub. p*

A — wul - ya, a - wul - ya! A - wul - - - ya, mmm-  
*ff* *p* *f* *sub. p*

T — Koo - ri, a - wul - ya! A - wul - - - ya, mmm.  
*ff* *p* *f* *sub. p*

B Koo - ri - kid wul - ya! A - wul - - - ya, mmm.

131 *I* **Meno mosso** ♩ = 72 *sf dim.* *p* *mp*

S A wise ca-mel train of Kal-goor-lie  
*sf dim.* *p* *mp*

A ca-mel train of Kal-goor-lie  
*sf dim.* *p* *mp*

T ah  
*sf dim.* *p* *mp*

B *sf dim.* *p* dry and gravelly <unis.>

A wise, a wise, a ca-mel, ca - mel wise, a ca-mel, ca-mel, ca - mel, wise ca-mel train, ca-mel of Kal - goor-lie, goor-lie  
 <breathe when necessary>

136 *sfz* *mp* *f* *mp*

S gold! A bil - ly - can of tea - tree oil ah  
*sfz* *mp* *pf* *mp*

A gold! bil - ly - can of fra - grant ah  
*sfz* *mp* *pf* *mp*

T gold! A bil - ly fra - - - grant And  
*sfz* *mp* *pf* *mp*

B gold! bil - ly - can of fra - grant And



140

S *pp* *p* *p*  
 And and and and and and and the

A *pp* *p* *pp* *p*  
 And and and and and and and and and the and

T *poco* *p* *pp* *p*  
 — the bit-ter, bit-ter ash - es and and and and and and and and the and

B *poco* *p* *pp* *p*  
 — the bit-ter, bit-ter ash - es and and and and and and and and the

145

S *f* *molto. rit.* *ff* *f* *a tempo* *mp*  
 [gaspl] bit-ter bit-ter bit-ter bit-ter bit-ter bit-ter ash - es from the Thurs - day fire - s

A *f*  
 [gaspl] bit-ter bit-ter bit-ter bit-ter bit-ter bit-ter ah

T *f* *mp*  
 [gaspl] bit-ter bit-ter bit-ter bit-ter bit-ter bit-ter ah s

B *f* *mp*  
 [gaspl] bit-ter bit-ter bit-ter bit-ter bit-ter bit-ter ah s

149 *poco accel.* **J** *Tempo primo* *st*

S *p*  
 pa - per p - pa - per-bark

A *p* *3* *p*  
 mmm For the pa - per p - pa - per-bark

T *p*  
 p ho - ney -

B *p*  
 p

152 *mf* *cresc. poco a poco*

S black - stu - - - - - mp child child kid Koo - ri, a -

A *mf* *cresc. poco a poco*

white - snow Je - sus - child Je - sus Je - sus - child child kid Koo - ri, a -

T *mf* *cresc. poco a poco*

white Koo - ri - kid Koo - ri - kid Koo - ri - kid Koo - ri - kid

B *p* *mf* *cresc. poco a poco*

white black - stu - - - - - mp child Koo - ri - kid Koo - ri - kid Koo - ri - kid Koo - ri - kid

156 *ff* *fff*

S wul - ya, a - wul wul wul wul a(h) a(h) a(h) a(h) Je - sus - child Koo - ri - kid, a -

A *ff* *fff*

wul - ya, a - wul wul wul wul a(h) a(h) a(h) a(h) a(h) Je - sus - child Koo - ri - kid, a - wul -

T *ff* *fff*

Koo - ri, a(h) a(h) a(h) a(h) wul wul wul wul Je - sus - child, Koo - ri - kid, a - wul -

B *ff* *fff*

Koo - ri - kid Koo - ri - kid Je - sus - child Koo - ri - kid Je - sus - child Koo - ri - kid, a - wul -

159 *mp* *sf* *port.*

S - wul ya... mmm.

A *mp* *sf ppp*

- wul ya... mmm.

T *mp* *sf* *port.*

- wul ya... mmm.

B *mp* *sf ppp*

- wul ya... mmm.



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