

No. 7011 | Walker | Bones, Be Good! | SSA, Str. Orch. (Str. Quart.)

Score

GWYNETH WALKER

# **Bones, Be Good!**

*for SSA Chorus and String Orchestra  
(or String Quartet)*

# Bones, Be Good!

for SSA Chorus and String Orchestra (or String Quartet)

Lucille Clifton

Gwyneth Walker

$\text{♩} = 88$  (swing eighths)  
snap fingers (hands down at side)

Chorus

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Violoncello

(Optional) Contrabass

7

Chorus

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

*p*

*arco*

*mf*

*pizz.*

*mf*

Words by Lucille Clifton are used by permission.

The piano/choral score (Catalog No. 7010) and parts (Catalog No. 7012) are available from the publisher.

13 *unis.* **A**  
*mf*

Chorus I beg my bones to be good but they just keep

Vln. 1 *pizz.* **A**  
*p*

Vln. 2 *pizz.*  
*p*

Vla. *pizz.*  
*p*

Vlc. *p*

Cb. *p*

18 *unis.* **A**  
*p*

S click in' mu - sic, click click click click

A click in' mu - sic, click click click click

Vln. 1 *arco* (swing eighths) *f* *p*

Vln. 2 *arco* *p*

Vla. *arco* *p*

Vlc. *arco* *p*

Cb. *arco* *p*

22 *mf*

S  
click click - in' - mu - sic.

A  
click click - in' mu - sic.

Vln. 1 *mf* *p*

Vln. 2 *mf* *p*

Vla. *mf* *p*

Vlc. *mf*

Cb. *mf*

27 **B** *p* *mf*

S  
bones, be good!

A  
bones, be good!

Vln. 1 **B** *f* *p* *mf*

Vln. 2 *mf* *p* *mf*

Vla. *mf* *p* *mf*

Vlc. *p* *mf* *f*

Cb. *pizz.* *p* *mf*

31 *unis. (mf)*

S They just keep on click - in' mu - sic. —

A *(mf)*  
bones, be good, be good, be good. They just keep on click - in' mu - sic. —

Vln. 1 *pizz.*

Vln. 2 *pizz.*

Vla. *pizz.*

Vlc. *pizz.*

Cb. *mf arco*

35 C *spoken*

S ————— Yeah!

A *spoken* ————— Yeah!

Vln. 1 *arco* *f* C

Vln. 2 *arco* *mf* *f*

Vla. *arco* *mf* *f*

Vlc. *arco* *mf* *f*

Cb. *arco* *mf* *f*

40

S *(mf)*  
I spin in the cen - ter of my - self.

A *(mf)*  
spin in the cen - ter

Vln. 1 *p*

Vln. 2 *p*

Vla. *p*

Vlc. *p*

Cb. *p* *pizz.*

44

S  
a fool - ish fright - ful wo - - - - man, \_\_\_\_\_

A  
of my - self, \_\_\_\_\_ a fool - ish fright - ful wo - - - - man,

Vln. 1 *f*

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc. *mf* *f*

Cb. *mf* *f*

*arco*

49 **D** *p* *mf*

S Mov - in' my skin a - gainst the wind, mov - in' my skin a - gainst the wind, and

A *mf* mov - in' my skin a - gainst the wind, and

**D**

Vln. 1 *p* *mf*

Vln. 2 *p* *mf*

Vla. *p* *mf*

Vlc. *mf*

Cb. *mf*

53 *f* **E** (*f*)

S tap tap tap tap danc - in' tap tap

A tap tap tap tap danc - in' danc - in' for my life,

**E** *pizz.*

Vln. 1 *f* *strong gliss.* *mf pizz.*

Vln. 2 *f* *strong gliss.* *mf pizz.*

Vla. *f* *strong gliss.* *mf pizz.*

Vlc. *f* *mf pizz.*

Cb. *f* *mf pizz.*

58

S  
tap danc - in' tap tap tap danc - in' tap tap

A  
for my life, for my life, tap,

Vln. 1  
*p* *f* *arco*

Vln. 2  
*p simile*

Vla.  
*p simile*

Vlc.  
*p simile*

Cb.  
*p simile*

62

S  
tap danc - in' tap tap tap danc - in' tap tap

A  
tap, for my life, tap, tap, for my life, tap,

Vln. 1  
*pizz.*

Vln. 2  
*f* *arco*

Vla.  
*p simile*

Vlc.  
*p simile*

Cb.  
*p simile*



66

S tap danc - in' tap tap tap danc - in' **F**

A tap, for my life, tap, tap, for my bones, — be good!.. *f*

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

*f*  
arco

*f*  
arco

*f*  
arco

70

S bones, — be good!.. *f*

A bones, be good, be good, be good! *p*

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

*p* *mf*

*p* *mf*

*p* *mf*

*p* *mf*

*p* *mf*

75 *unis.*  
*f*

S  
they just keep on click-in' mu - sic.

A  
they just keep on click-in' mu - sic.

Vln. 1  
*f*

Vln. 2  
*f*

Vla.  
*f*

Vlc.  
*f*

Cb.  
*f*

79 **G** *f* *scat singing*

S  
ya ba ba ba ya — ba ba ba da

A

Vln. 1  
**G**  
*(f)*

Vln. 2  
*non div.*  
*mf*

Vla.  
*mf*

Vlc.  
*mf*

Cb.  
*mf*

83

S  
ya ba ba ba ya — ba ba ba da ba da ba da ba da ba da ba da ba da ba

A  
*f* *scat singing*  
ya ba ba ba ya — ba ba ba da ba da ba da ba da ba da ba da ba da ba

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

87 **H**

S  
mov - in' my skin a - gainst — the wind, *f* mov - in' my skin a - gainst — the wind, and

A  
da *f* mov - in' my skin a - gainst — the wind,

Vln. 1  
*p* *f*

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.  
*div.*

Cb.

91

*p*

S tap tap tap tap tap tap tap tap tap tap tap tap tap tap tap tap

A *p* tap tap tap tap tap tap tap tap tap tap tap tap tap tap

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla. *unis.*  
*p*

Vlc. *p*

Cb.

95

*f*

S tap a tap a tap a tap a danc - in' \_\_\_\_\_

A tap tap tap tap dance, I mean danc - in! \_\_\_\_\_

Vln. 1 *p* \_\_\_\_\_ *f* \_\_\_\_\_ *div.* *p* *f*

Vln. 2 \_\_\_\_\_ *f* \_\_\_\_\_ *div.* *p* *f*

Vla. \_\_\_\_\_ *mf* \_\_\_\_\_ *f* \_\_\_\_\_ *div.* *p* *f*

Vlc. \_\_\_\_\_ *mf* \_\_\_\_\_ *f* \_\_\_\_\_ *div.* *p* *f*

Cb. \_\_\_\_\_ *f* \_\_\_\_\_ *div.* *p* *f*

99 **I**

S *f*  
 tap tap tap danc - in' tap tap

A *unis. f*  
 danc - in' for my life, for my life, tap

**I**

Vln. 1 *unis., pizz. p*

Vln. 2 *p unis., pizz.*

Vla. *p unis., pizz.*

Vlc. *p unis., pizz.*

Cb. *p pizz.*

103

S1 *mf*  
 tap danc - in' mov in' my skin a - gainst the wind,

S2 *mf* *p*  
 tap danc - in' mov - in' my skin a - gainst

A *p*  
 tap for my life, tap tap for my life, tap

Vln. 1 *simile* *non div.* *gliss. freely, with abandon arco gliss. f*

Vln. 2 *simile*

Vla. *simile*

Vlc. *simile*

Cb. *simile*

107

S1 *p* click click click - in' mu - sic

S2 the wind, click click

A tap for my life, tap tap for my life, tap

Vln. 1 *p echo* gliss. *f*

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

111

S1 **J** fool - ish fright - ful wo - man, fool - ish fright - ful

S2 click - in' mu - sic a fool - ish fright - ful

A tap for my life, tap tap tap for my life, tap

Vln. 1 *p echo* **J** *non div.* *f harshly*

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

115 *cresc.*

S1 just a fool - ish fright - ful wo - man, just a fool - ish fright - ful

S2 wo - man, just a fool - ish fright - ful *cresc.*

A tap tap for my life, tap tap tap for my life, tap

Vln. 1 *cresc.*

Vln. 2 *cresc.*

Vla. *cresc.*

Vlc. *cresc.*

Cb. *cresc.*

119 **K With energy** Sop. 1

S1 wo - - - man, ba da ba da da da ba da da ba da ba ya ba ba ba ya

S2 wo - - - man, ya ba ba ba ya

A tap tap

Vln. 1 **K With energy** *arco* *f*

Vln. 2 *arco* *f*

Vla. *f* *arco*

Vlc. *f* *arco*

Cb. *f* *arco*

123

*unis.*

S  
 — ba ba ba da ya ba ba ba ya — ba ba ba da ya ba ba — ba da ba,

A  
 ya ba ba ba ya — ba ba ba da ya ba ba — ba da ba,

Vln. 1  
 Vln. 2  
 Vla.  
 Vlc.  
 Cb.

*p f*

127

S  
 ya ba ba — ba da ba ya ba da ba da ba da ba ya ba da da

A  
 ya ba ba — ba da ba ya ba da ba da ba da ba ya ba da da

snap fingers  
(up by face)

snap fingers  
(up by face)

Vln. 1  
 Vln. 2  
 Vla.  
 Vlc.  
 Cb.



## Gwyneth Walker – Music for Voice and Orchestra

### Mixed Chorus and Orchestra

#### *Crossing the Bar* (2004) (3'30") #6378

2.1.1.1: 2.2.1.0: Perc(1): Strings

Score #6375, Parts #6376

Text by Alfred, Lord Tennyson

#### *Dreams and Dances* (1992)

*No. 1 – Bones, Be Good!* (2'50") ECS#5029

*No. 2 – Some Dreams Hang in the Air* (4') ECS#5030

*No. 3 – Let There Be New Flowering* (3'30") ECS#5031

Strings

Texts by Lucille Clifton

#### *How Can I Keep From Singing?* (1995) (3'30") #5100

2.1.1.1: 2.2.1.0: Perc(1): Strings

Score #6337, Parts #6338

Traditional text (Quaker Hymn)

#### *I Thank You God* (2002) (4') #5977

2.1.1.1: 2.2.1.0: Perc(1): Strings

Score #6794, Parts #6795

Text by E. E. Cummings

#### *I Will Be Earth* (1992) (2'30") #4887

2.1.1.1: 2.0.0.0: Perc(1): Strings

Score #6538, Parts #6539

Text by May Swenson

#### *New Millennium Suite* (1999-2000)

*No. 1 – Sinner Man* (4'30") #5865

*No. 2 – Peace, I Ask of Thee, O River* (4'30") #5866

*No. 3 – Down by the Riverside* (4'30") #5867

2+Picc.2.2.2: 4.3.3.1: Perc(3): Strings

Second movement is scored for string orchestra alone.

Full score #5868, Parts Rental #5868a

Traditional texts

#### *River Songs* (1996)

*No. 1 – Deep River* (6'30") #5383

*No. 2 – A Mule Named Sal* (5') #5384

*No. 3 – The Water is Wide* (8') #5385

1.1.2.1: 1.1.1.0: Perc(1): Strings

Traditional texts

#### *Rejoice! – Christmas Songs* (2001) (11') #6067

2+Picc.2.2.2: 4.3.3.1: Kbd: Perc(3): Strings

Score #6068, Parts #6069

Texts by William Chatterton Dix, John Mason Neale, and Christina Rossetti; adp. composer

#### \* *Tell the Earth to Shake* (2004) #6423 (4'15")

2.1.1.1: 2.2.1.0: Perc(1): Strings

Score #6937, Parts #6938

Text by Thomas Merton

#### \* *There Is a Way to Glory*

(from *Songs to the Lord of Peace*) (2006) (4'15") #6974

2.1.1.1: 2.2.1.0: Perc(1): Strings available.

Score #6975, Parts #6976

Text by Thomas Merton

#### *To an Isle in the Water* (2005)

*No. 1 – The Lake Isle of Innisfree* (4'15") #6708

*No. 2 – Shy One* (3'45") #6709

*No. 3 – When You Are Old* (3'30") #6710

*No. 4 – Song of Wandering Aengus* (4'15") #6711

2.1.0.1: 2.0.0.0: Perc(1): Strings

Score #6712, Parts #6713

Texts by W. B. Yeats

#### \* *The Tree of Peace* (2006) (5'30") #6939

2.1.1.1: 2.2.1.0: Perc(1): Strings

Score #6940, Parts #6941

Text by John Greenleaf Whittier, adp. composer

### Women's Chorus and Orchestra

#### *Crossing the Bar* (2004) (3'30") #6377

2.1.1.1: 2.2.1.0: Perc(1): Strings

Score #6374, Parts #6376

Text by Alfred, Lord Tennyson

#### *How Can I Keep From Singing?* (2004) (3'30") #5100

2.1.1.1: 2.2.1.0: Perc(1): Strings

Score #6342

Traditional text (Quaker Hymn)

#### *I Thank You God* (1998) (4') #5331

2.1.1.1: 2.2.1.0: Perc(1): Strings

Score #6595, Parts #6596

Text by E. E. Cummings

#### *The Lord's Prayer* (from *Bethesda Evenson*) (1988) (4'30") #6816

Strings

Score #6817, Parts Set #6818, Individual Parts #6819

Text from the Bible (The Lord's Prayer)

#### *Peace I Ask of Thee, O River* (2005) (4'30") #6550

Strings

Score #6551, Parts #6552

Traditional text

#### *Songs for Women's Voices* (1993)

*No. 1 – Women Should Be Pedestals* (2'15") #5020

*No. 2 – Mornings Innocent* (2'30") #5021

*No. 3 – The Name is Changeless* (1'15") #5022

*No. 4 – Love is a Rain of Diamonds* (2'45") #5023

*No. 5 – In Autumn* (3'20") #5024

*No. 6 – I Will Be Earth* (2'30") #5025

2.1.1.1: 2.0.0.0: Perc(1): Strings

Texts by May Swenson

### Men's Chorus and Orchestra

#### *How Can I Keep From Singing?* (2004) (3'30") #6336

2.1.1.1: 2.2.1.0: Perc(1): Strings

Score #6343, Parts #6338

Traditional text (Quaker Hymn)

#### *Love Was My Lord and King!* (2003)

*No. 1 – A Sentinel* (3'45") #6371

*No. 2 – There Rolls the Deep* (3'45") #6372

*No. 3 – Crossing the Bar* (3'30") #6373

2.1.1.1: 2.2.1.0: Perc(1): Strings

Score #6369, Parts #6370

Texts by Alfred, Lord Tennyson

### Solo Voice and Orchestra

#### *No Ordinary Woman!* (1997) (15')

Soprano and Strings

Score #5729, Parts #6542

Texts by Lucille Clifton

(\* It is suggested that these three songs be performed as a set, in the order "Tell the Earth to Shake", "The Tree of Peace" and "There is a Way to Glory".)