

O solitude (Am)

1st and last stanzas of a poem by Katherine Phillips Henry Purcell

The musical score consists of two staves of music. The top staff begins with a treble clef, a common time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics for the first stanza are:

O sol-i-tude, my sweet-
est choice!

Below the lyrics are the vocal parts: Alto (a), Tenor (t), Bass (b), and Soprano (s). The music continues with the lyrics:

O sol-i-tude O sol-i-tude my sweet-
est sweet-est

choice! Pla-ces de-vo-ted to the sight Re-mote from tu-mult and from

noise, How ye my rest- less thoughts de-light!

The bottom staff begins with a bass clef, a common time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics for the last stanza are:

O sol-i-tude, my sweet-
est, sweet-est choice!

The vocal parts for the bottom staff are: Bass (b), Tenor (t), Alto (a), and Soprano (s).

[50]

O heav'n! What con- tent is mine, To see these trees, which have ap-

pear'd From the na- ti- vi- ty of time, And which all a- ges have re- ver'd, To

look to- day as fresh and green, To look to- day as fresh and green As

when their beau- ties first were seen. O, O, how a-

gree- a- ble a sight These hang- ing moun- tains do ap- pear, Which th'un-

[130]

With-out the pains, the pains to stu-dy it. For thy sake I in

135

love am grown With what thy fan-cy, thy fan-cy does pur-sue; But when I think up-

140

on my own, I hate it, I hate it for that rea-son too, Be-cause it

145

needs must hin- der me From see- ing, from see- ing and from serv- ing thee.

150

O sol-i-tude, O how I sol-i-tude a-dore!

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170