

Esther

SCENE ONE

In the city square. The NARRATOR is alone on stage.

NARRATOR: And now, we present to you portions of the book of Esther from the Old Testament. It is a story of faith ... courage ... corruption ... and justice. The setting is the Citadel of Susa, a capitol of the Persian Empire. We begin with a poor Jewish man named Mordecai and his cousin, Esther.

MORDECAI and ESTHER enter as they are mentioned in the song.

1. The Citadel of Susa

Erik Whitehill

Erik Whitehill

mf $\text{♩} = 80$

Piano

Part I

OPTIONAL SOLOIST
mf

5

Once, in the cit - a - del of su - sa, there lived a Jew named Mor - de - cai,

Part II

A part for C instruments is printed on page 76.

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9 C Instrument I
mf

Inst. I

9 C Instrument II
mf

Inst. II

10 (tutti)

CHOIR
mf

who, all in all, was quite a guy, in the

Mor - de - cai, quite a guy, in the (tutti)

13

Inst. I

Inst. II

cit - a - del, the cit - a - del of Su - sa. He raised Es - ther, his

cit - a - del, the cit - a - del of Su - sa. He raised Es - ther, his

9. It's All About Me

Erik Whitehill

Erik Whitehill

Swing (♩ = 120)

Piano

mp
vamp

The piano introduction consists of two staves in 4/4 time. The right hand plays a vamp of chords: F major (F-A-C), Bb major (Bb-D-F), and Eb major (Eb-G-Bb). The left hand plays a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes: F, A, Bb, G, F, A, Bb, G.

1st time: HAMAN
2nd time: HAMAN and CHOIR
mf

5

This is my day. — It's all a - bout me.
This is your day. — It's all a - bout you.

The first system of the song features a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts at measure 5. The piano accompaniment continues with the same vamp as in the introduction. The lyrics are: "This is my day. — It's all a - bout me. This is your day. — It's all a - bout you."

8

What can I say? — It's all a - bout
What can we say? — It's all a - bout

The second system of the song features a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts at measure 8. The piano accompaniment continues with the same vamp. The lyrics are: "What can I say? — It's all a - bout What can we say? — It's all a - bout"

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11

me. I am in de - mand!
you. You are in de - mand!

14

I'm the king's right hand, 'cause
You're the king's right hand, 'cause

17

I'm pro - mo - ted now! Ev - 'ry - one
you're pro - mo - ted now! Ev - 'ry - one

20

must bow! must bow!

f

1.

MORDECAI: If you don't, we'll all be put to death. Esther, this is why you are queen. This is God's plan for you.

ESTHER: Oh, Cousin Mordecai, this is a terrible choice! I am frightened.

MORDECAI: Just remember, Esther... you are not alone.

MORDECAI exits. Music begins for "In Your Hands."

ESTHER: It seems that this is my calling ... my people need me. I must go talk to the king. *(she looks up)*
God, give me strength.

11. In Your Hands

Erik Whitehill

Erik Whitehill

The musical score for "In Your Hands" is written for three parts: C Instrument I, C Instrument II, and Piano. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 90. The score begins with a *mf* dynamic for the C instruments and a *mp* dynamic for the piano. The piano part features a steady accompaniment with chords and moving lines in both hands. A large, diagonal watermark for the Choristers Guild is overlaid across the score, with the text "DUPLICATION OR DISTRIBUTION IS PROHIBITED BY LAW" repeated along the diagonal.

A part for C instruments is printed on page 84.

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5

Inst. I

Inst. II

mp

mp

ESTHER
mf

I put my life in your hands... Dir - ect me.

8

Inst. I

Inst. II

Give me the words_ to say... De - spite the de - cree,_ my peo -

14. In the Name of the King (Reprise)

Erik Whitehill

Erik Whitehill

Shuffle, swing eighths (♩ = 150)

Piano *mf*

Inst. I C Instrument I *mf*

Inst. II C Instrument II *mf*

CHOIR (Mocking HAMAN) *mf*

Give him a roy - al robe! Give him a gold - en

5

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8

Inst. I

Inst. II

crown! Throw a pa - rade

11

Inst. I

Inst. II

down the main drag of the town! And with the cheer - ing crowd,

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Detailed description: This page of a musical score contains two systems of music. The first system starts at measure 8 and includes two instrumental staves (Inst. I and Inst. II), a vocal line, and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The vocal line has the lyrics 'crown! Throw a pa - rade'. The second system starts at measure 11 and includes two instrumental staves, a vocal line, and a grand staff. The vocal line has the lyrics 'down the main drag of the town! And with the cheer - ing crowd,'. A large diagonal watermark 'CG Choristers Guild' is overlaid across the page, with the text 'DUPLICATION OR DISTRIBUTION IS PROHIBITED BY LAW' written below it.

16. In Your Hands (Finale)

Erik Whitehill

Erik Whitehill

Spirited! (♩ = 110)

Piano *f*

Inst. I C Instrument I *mf* *second time only*

Inst. II C Instrument II *mf* *second time only*

mf
1st time: CHOIR
2nd time: CHOIR and CONGREGATION*
mf

We put our lives in your hands...

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The tempo is marked 'Spirited!' with a quarter note equal to 110 beats per minute. The piano part begins with a forte (f) dynamic. The C instrument parts (I and II) enter at measure 4. The choir and congregation parts enter at measure 10, with the first time for the choir and the second time for both choir and congregation. The lyrics 'We put our lives in your hands...' are written under the choir part. Dynamics include piano (p), mezzo-forte (mf), and forte (f). A watermark for 'Choristers Guild' is visible across the score.

A part for C instruments is printed on pages 89-90.

*A congregational part is printed on page 75.

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Inst. I

Inst. II

7

Dir - ect us. Give us the words_ to say. In

Inst. I

Inst. II

10

joy or de - pair, you're al - ways there. Help us and guide_ us we pray!