

for Doug Chenault and the choir of the Unitarian Church of Norfolk, Virginia

Motherless Child

for Soprano and Bass Soli, SATB Chorus unaccompanied

Traditional Spiritual

Adolphus Hailstork, arr.

Rhythmic chant ♩ = 90

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

f

Some - times! Some - times! Some - times_ I_ feel_

f

4

p

like a moth - er - less child_ Some - times I feel like a moth - er - less child_

p

like a moth - er - less child, Oh_

7

cresc.

f

Some - times I feel like a moth - er - less child_ Some - times_ I_ feel_

cresc.

f

10

mf

Bass Solo

p

Some - times I feel like a

S
A

like a moth er - less child_ Some - times I feel like a moth - er - less child.

T
B

p

13

moth - - - er - less child. Some - times

Some - times I feel like a moth - er - less child. Some - times I feel

like a moth - er - less child, a child.

This system contains measures 13, 14, and 15. The bass staff has a melody starting on a whole note, followed by half notes and quarter notes. The treble staff has a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The lyrics are distributed across the three staves.

16

I feel like a moth - - - er - less child.

like a moth - er - less child. Some - times I feel like a moth - er - less child.

This system contains measures 16, 17, and 18. The bass staff continues the melody with half and quarter notes. The treble staff continues the eighth-note accompaniment. The lyrics are distributed across the three staves.

19

Some - times I feel like a moth - - - er - less

Some - times I feel like a moth - er - less child. Some - times I feel

This system contains measures 19, 20, and 21. The bass staff continues the melody. The treble staff continues the eighth-note accompaniment. The lyrics are distributed across the three staves.

22

child. a long way_ from home

like a moth - er - less child. Some - times I feel_ like a moth - er - less child.

This system contains measures 22, 23, and 24. The bass staff continues the melody. The treble staff continues the eighth-note accompaniment. The lyrics are distributed across the three staves.

25

a long, long way from home.

Some - times I feel like a moth - er - less child. Some - times I feel

28

True be - - - liev - - er, true be-

like a moth - er - less child. Some - times I feel like a moth - er - less child.

like a moth - er - less child. True be-

31

liev - er. True be - liev - er.

Some - times I feel like a moth - er - less child. Some - times I feel

liev - er. ...like a moth - er - less child. True be - liev - er.

34

Some - times I feel like I'm

like a moth - er - less child. Some - - - time, some - times I

True be - liev - er.

al - mos' gone. Some - times
feel, feel like a moth - er-less child. Some - - - time,
True be - liev - er.

40

I feel like I'm al - - - - mos' gone.
some - times I feel, some - time ... feel like a moth - er - less child.
True be - liev - er.

43

Some - times I feel like I'm al - - - - mos'
Some - - - - time, some - time, some - times I feel, feel
True be - liev - er.

46

gone, way up in the heav - en - ly land,
like a moth - er - less child. ... I feel like a moth - er - less child.

49

— way up — in the heav - en - ly land. —

f Some - times I — feel — like a moth - er - less child. — Some - times I — feel —

f

52

like a moth - er - less child. — Some - times I feel like a moth - er - less child. —

p

p like a moth - er - less child. Oh! —

55

S
A Some - times I feel like a moth - er - less child. — Some - times I feel

T
B

p

58

Sop. Solo *mp* Moth - - - - -

Bass Solo *mp* Some-times I feel like a

S A *pp* like a moth-er-less child. Some-times I feel like a moth-er-less child.

T B *pp* like a moth-er-less child.Oh!_

61

p *mp*
er! Oh, moth - - er!_

moth - - - er-less child. Some - times

Some - times I feel like a moth - er-less child. Some - times I feel

like a moth - er-less child, a child._

64

mf
Moth - er!_ Moth-er!_

I feel like a moth - - er-less child.

like a moth-er-less child. Some-times I feel like a moth-er-less child._

67

mp

Moth - - - - - er!

Some-times I feel like a moth - - - - - er-less

Some-times I feel like a moth-er-less child. Some-times I feel

70

Oh, _____ moth-er! _____ Oh, _____

child a long way from home, _____

like a moth-er-less child. Some - times I feel like a moth-er-less child. _____

mf

73

moth - - - - - er!

a long, long way _____ from home.

f Some-times I feel like a moth-er-less child. _____ *dim.* Some - times I feel

f *dim.*

A long way, a long way, a

76

like a moth - er-less child.____ Some - times I feel

long way from home._ Oh Lord, a long way, a long way, a

78

mf

Bass Solo

A long way____

like a moth - er-less child.____ Some - times I feel

long way from home._ A____ long way, a long way, a

80

Sop. Solo

Bass Solo

S

A

T

B

A

from home.____

like a moth - er less child.____ Some - times I feel

long way from home._ Oh Lord, a long way, a long way, a

long way from_

like a moth - er - less child. Some - times I feel

long way from home. A long way, a long way, a

This system contains measures 82 and 83. It features a vocal line with a long note in measure 82 and a melodic line in measure 83. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the left hand and a more complex melodic line in the right hand.

84

home. A long

A long, long way from

like a moth - er - less child. Some - times I feel

long way from home. Oh Lord, a long way, a long way, a

This system contains measures 84 and 85. The vocal line continues with a long note in measure 84 and a melodic line in measure 85. The piano accompaniment maintains the same rhythmic and melodic patterns as the previous system.

86

way,

home, from home,

like a moth - er - less child. Some - times I feel

long way from home. A long way, a long way, a

This system contains measures 86 and 87. The vocal line features a triplet in measure 86 and a long note in measure 87. The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic and melodic patterns.

88

a long way from home, like a moth - er - less child a long way from home, a long way from home, from home, a long way from

91

way from home, long way from home, home, from home

arr. 2001
3'00"