



Heart, We Will Forget Him

Words by **EMILY DICKINSON**

Music by **PATTI DRENNAN**

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Excelcia Music Publishing

About the Composer



Patti Drennan earned a Bachelor of Music Education degree at Oklahoma State University and a Masters of Music Education degree at the University of Oklahoma. She taught Choral Music for twenty-eight years in Norman Public Schools, the first twenty years at West Mid-High School, where she was voted "Teacher of the Year", and eight years at Norman High (OK). In 2004, she was awarded the coveted "Director of Distinction Award" given by OCDA. In 2018 she received the "Maestro Award" given by the Ambassadors Concert Choir. Patti was awarded the 2021 "Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Honoree". In 2022, she was awarded the Oklahoma State University College of Arts and Sciences "Distinguished Alumni Award" for the Greenwood School of Music. Additionally that year she was awarded the "William S Roche' Award" for commitment, dedication and excellence by the Ambassadors Concert Choir. In 2023, she became a "Recording Academy / GRAMMY® Member and Voter". Her recently released choral album "Echoes of Grace" charted #1 on Billboard, as well as won the World Entertainment Award for "Best Choral Album".

An active composer and arranger, Patti has over 875 choral octavos and piano books published with ten major publishers. She has served as a clinician for school and church workshops in 23 states, numerous times in Canada, and has presented 4 sessions at MMA. She has guest directed at numerous "Composer Weekends" and has adjudicated choral contests in Oklahoma, Arkansas and Kansas.

Patti retired in 2004 in order to compose and serve as a clinician and reading session presenter for her publishers. She served for almost ten years as Music/Worship Arts Director at First Baptist Church, Norman and served for over 3 years as Music Director at NorthHaven Church, Norman. She and her late husband have two grown children, a son-in-law and two amazing grandsons. She enjoys spending time recording and performing with her daughter in numerous symphonic performances. Her music can be accessed through many distributors, publishers and at www.pattidrennan.com.

Heart We Will Forget Him

"Heart, We Will Forget Him" with words by Emily Dickinson and music by Patti Drennan, beautifully conveys themes of loss and resilience. Its hauntingly lyrical lines are set to expressive music, creating a poignant and moving experience for both singers and audiences. Whether performed with or without optional violin, this piece offers a powerful exploration of grief and healing.

This piece is part of a set of three Emily Dickinson poems.

It can easily be paired with:

If I Can Stop One Heart From Breaking (SATB) - SATB2510

Hope is the Thing With Feathers (TTBB) - TTBB2505

Featured on the award winning album Echoes of Grace 2025 Global Music Award Gold Winner 2025 World Entertainment Award Best Choral Music



Recordings are available on all major streaming services.

Heart, We Will Forget Him

for SSAA Voices with Piano Accompaniment and opt. Violin

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EMILY DICKINSON

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PATTI DRENNAN

With emotion and rubato ♩ = 72 - 74

Violin

mf

Piano

mf

3

rit.

Soprano I/II

6 *mf* *a tempo*

Heart, we will for - get him!

Alto I/II

mf

Heart, we will for - get him!

a tempo

3

3

8

You and I, to - night!

You and I, to - night!

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10 *f*

f You may for - get the warmth he gave,

f You may for - get the warmth he gave,

f

12 *rit.*

mf 6

rit.

I will for-get the light.

I will for-get the light.

14 *a tempo*

mf a tempo

When you have done pray tell me,

mf

When you have done, pray tell me,

mf a tempo

16

that I my thoughts may dim;

that I my thoughts may dim;

18

Haste! lest while you're lag - ging,

Haste! lest while you're lag - ging,

20

mf

I may re - mem - ber him!

mf

I may re - mem - ber him!

mf

22

24

rit.

rit.

26 *a tempo*

cresc.

a tempo *cresc.*

You may for - get the warmth he gave, but

cresc.

You may for - get the warmth he gave, but

a tempo *cresc.*

28

f

I will for - get the light.

f

I will for - get the light.

f

30

Heart, we will for - get him!

Heart, we will for - get him!

32

dim. I will for - get the

dim. I will for - get the

dim. *rit.*

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34 *a tempo*
mp

mp a tempo
light.

mp
light.

mp a tempo

37 *rit.*
rit. *p*

I will for - get the light.

p

I will for - get the light.

rit. *p*

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EMILY DICKINSON

for SSAA Voices with Piano Accompaniment and opt. Violin

Music by
PATTI DRENNAN

With emotion and rubato ♩ = 72 - 74

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of ten staves of music. The first staff begins with a dynamic marking of *mf* and a tempo instruction of "With emotion and rubato ♩ = 72 - 74". The second staff includes a *rit.* marking and a *a tempo* instruction. The third staff features a *f* dynamic marking. The fourth staff has *rit.*, *mf*, and *a tempo* markings. The fifth staff includes a *a tempo* instruction. The sixth staff has a *mf* dynamic marking. The seventh staff includes *rit.*, *a tempo*, and *cresc.* markings. The eighth staff has a *f* dynamic marking and a *a tempo* instruction. The ninth staff includes a *rit.* marking and a *p* dynamic marking. The score contains various musical notations including eighth notes, quarter notes, and sixteenth notes, as well as triplets and slurs. A large diagonal watermark reading "Preview Only" and "Excelcia Music Publishing" is overlaid across the score.



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Patti Drennan

Patti's knowledge of festivals, concerts, and contest makes her familiar with what "works" and will help ensure a choir's success. She incorporates unusual harmonies and creative melodies in her writing and always has an accompaniment that is enjoyable to play.

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