

## **The Steps I Take**

The steps I take, I take at Your command;  
Your love fills up my life so perfectly.  
Illuminates my path with ecstasy:  
My days and nights are always in Your hand.

No years can make me less than Your beloved child;  
No space can separate my life from You.  
You guide me in whatever things I do:  
Your care for me is merciful and mild.

You watch me as a shepherd watches sheep;  
You guard me from the fear of the unknown.  
With you by me, I cannot be alone:  
I rest in safety, waking or asleep.

You bear my burdens - You who care for me:  
In You I find my way, and I am free.

Margaret I. Hardy

# The Steps I Take

Poem by Margaret I. Hardy  
Based on Psalm 23

Glenn Hardy

**Adagio** ♩ = 75

Soprano

Alto *mf*  
The steps I take, I

Tenor

Bass

**Adagio** ♩ = 75  
*for rehearsal only*

Piano

**Adagio** ♩ = 75  
*mf*

Violoncello 1

**Adagio** ♩ = 75  
*mf*

Violoncello 2

**Adagio** ♩ = 75  
*mf*

Violoncello 3

**Adagio** ♩ = 75  
*mf*

Violoncello 4

**Adagio** ♩ = 75  
*mf*  
SW. Salicional, Celeste

\*Organ  
*mf*  
manual only

\*In the absence of strings, organ may be used

# The Steps I Take

2

7

S

7

A

take at Your com - mand; Your love \_\_\_\_\_ fills up my life so per-fect - ly. \_\_\_\_\_

7

T

8

7

B

7

Pno.

7

Vc. 1

7

Vc. 2

7

Vc. 3

7

Vc. 4

7

org.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'The Steps I Take'. It includes vocal parts for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B), a Piano (Pno.) part, four Violin parts (Vc. 1-4), and an Organ (org.) part. The Alto part contains the lyrics: 'take at Your com - mand; Your love \_\_\_\_\_ fills up my life so per-fect - ly. \_\_\_\_\_'. The score is written in a common time signature and features various musical notations such as rests, notes, and accidentals. A rehearsal mark '7' is placed above the first measure of each system.

The Steps I Take

13

S

13

A

Il - lum-i - nates my path with ec-sta-sy: My

13

T

8

13

B

13

Pno.

13

Vc. 1

13

Vc. 2

13

Vc. 3

13

Vc. 4

13

org.

The Steps I Take

4  
19

S

19

A

days and nights are al-ways in Your hand.

19

T

8

19

B

19

Pno.

19

Vc. 1

19

Vc. 2

19

Vc. 3

19

Vc. 4

19

org.

The Steps I Take

26 *mf*  
S No years can make me less than Your be - lov-ed child; No space can

26 *mf*  
A No years — can make me less than Your be-lov-ed child; No space can

26  
T

26  
B

26  
Pno.

26  
Vc. 1

26  
Vc. 2

26  
Vc. 3

26  
Vc. 4

26  
org.

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'The Steps I Take', page 5. The score includes vocal parts for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B), along with Piano (Pno.), Violins 1-4 (Vc. 1-4), and Organ (org.). The vocal parts have lyrics: 'No years can make me less than Your be-lov-ed child; No space can'. The Soprano and Alto parts are marked with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The Tenor and Bass parts have rests. The Piano part features a melodic line with chords. The Violin and Organ parts provide harmonic support with sustained notes and chords. The page number '26' is written above the first measure of each staff.

The Steps I Take

32  
S sep-ar-ate my life from You. You guide me in

32  
A sep - a - rate my life from You. You guide me in what-ev - er

32  
T

32  
B

32  
Pno.

32  
Vc. 1

32  
Vc. 2

32  
Vc. 3

32  
Vc. 4

32  
org.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, numbered 6, is titled 'The Steps I Take'. It features a vocal quartet (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and instrumental accompaniment. The vocal parts have lyrics: 'sep-ar-ate my life from You. You guide me in' for the Soprano and 'sep - a - rate my life from You. You guide me in what-ev - er' for the Alto. The Tenor and Bass parts are currently silent, indicated by rests. The piano accompaniment includes a piano (Pno.), four violins (Vc. 1-4), and an organ (org.). The organ part is written in a grand staff with a bass clef. The score is marked with a rehearsal sign '32' at the beginning of each system.

The Steps I Take

38  
S  
what - ev - er things I do: Your care for me \_\_\_\_\_ is

38  
A  
things I do. Your care for me \_\_\_\_\_ is

38  
T  
8

38  
B

38  
Pno.

38  
Vc. 1

38  
Vc. 2

38  
Vc. 3

38  
Vc. 4

38  
org.

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'The Steps I Take', page 7. The score is arranged for a vocal quartet (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano ensemble (Piano, Violins 1-4, Organ). The vocal parts have lyrics: 'what - ev - er things I do: Your care for me \_\_\_\_\_ is' for Soprano and 'things I do. Your care for me \_\_\_\_\_ is' for Alto. The instrumental parts include a piano accompaniment with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. There are four violin staves (Vc. 1-4) and an organ part. The organ part consists of two staves with chords and a bass line. The score is marked with a rehearsal mark '38' at the beginning of each system.



The Steps I Take

44  
S mer-ci-ful and mild.

44  
A mer - ci - ful and mild.

44  
T

44  
B

44  
Pno.

44  
Vc. 1

44  
Vc. 2

44  
Vc. 3

44  
Vc. 4

44  
org.

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the hymn 'The Steps I Take'. The page is numbered 8. It features a vocal quartet (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and instrumental accompaniment. The vocal parts are in treble clef, and the instrumental parts are in bass clef. The lyrics are 'mer-ci-ful and mild.' The score includes a piano part with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. There are four violin parts (Vc. 1-4) and an organ part. The organ part consists of two staves with block chords. The music is in a common time signature and features a simple, hymn-like melody.

The Steps I Take

51 *f*  
S You \_\_\_ watch me as a shep - herd watch - es sheep; You guard \_\_\_

51 *f*  
A You \_\_\_ watch me as a shep - herd watch - es sheep; You guard \_\_\_

51 *f*  
T You \_\_\_ watch me as a shep - herd watch - es sheep; You guard \_\_\_

51 *f*  
B You \_\_\_ watch me as a shep - herd watch - es sheep; You guard \_\_\_

51  
Pno.

51  
Vc. 1

51 *f*  
Vc. 2

51 *f*  
Vc. 3

51 *f*  
Vc. 4

51  
org.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score for 'The Steps I Take' (page 9) features vocal and instrumental parts. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) are in treble clef with lyrics: 'You \_\_\_ watch me as a shep - herd watch - es sheep; You guard \_\_\_'. The piano part (Pno.) is in grand staff. The string quartet (Vc. 1-4) and organ (org.) parts are in bass clef. The score begins at measure 51 with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The vocal lines have a melodic line with some rests, while the piano and organ parts provide harmonic support with chords and moving lines.

S <sup>57</sup>  
 me from the fear of the un - known. With you by me, I can-not be a -

A <sup>57</sup>  
 me from the fear — of the un - known. With you by me — I can-not be a -

T <sup>57</sup>  
 8 me from the fear of the un - known. With you by me, I \_\_\_\_\_

B <sup>57</sup>

Pno. <sup>57</sup>

Vc. 1 <sup>57</sup>

Vc. 2 <sup>57</sup>

Vc. 3 <sup>57</sup>

Vc. 4 <sup>57</sup>

org. <sup>57</sup>

The Steps I Take

63  
S lone: I rest in safe - ty, wak - ing or a - sleep.

63  
A lone: I rest in safe - ty, wak - ing or a - sleep.

63  
T 8 can - not be a - lone: I rest in safe - ty, wa-king or a -

63  
B

63  
Pno.

63  
Vc. 1

63  
Vc. 2

63  
Vc. 3

63  
Vc. 4

63  
org.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, titled 'The Steps I Take', is page 11. It features a vocal quartet (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and instrumental accompaniment. The vocal parts have lyrics: 'lone: I rest in safe - ty, wak - ing or a - sleep.' for Soprano and Alto; 'can - not be a - lone: I rest in safe - ty, wa-king or a -' for Tenor; and a Bass line. The piano accompaniment includes a grand piano (Pno.), four violins (Vc. 1-4), and an organ (org.). The score is marked with the number 63 at the beginning of each system.

The Steps I Take

69 *f*  
S — You bear — my bur - dens -

69 *f*  
A — You bear my — bur - dens -

69 *f*  
T sleep. — You bear — my bur - dens -

69 *f*  
B — You bear — my bur -

69 *f*  
Pno.

69 *f*  
Vc. 1

69 *f*  
Vc. 2

69 *f*  
Vc. 3

69 *f*  
Vc. 4

69 *f*  
org.

The Steps I Take

76  
S - - You who care for me: \_\_\_\_\_ In You \_\_\_\_\_ I

76  
A - - You who care \_\_\_\_\_ for me: In you I

76  
T - You \_\_\_\_\_ who care \_\_\_\_\_ for me: \_\_\_\_\_ In You I

76  
B dens - You who care \_\_\_\_\_ for me: In You \_\_\_\_\_

76  
Pno.

76  
Vc. 1

76  
Vc. 2

76  
Vc. 3

76  
Vc. 4

76  
org.

The Steps I Take

82  
S find my way, and I am free.

82  
A find my way, and I am free.

82  
T find my way, and I am free.

82  
B I find my way, and I am free.

82  
Pno.

82  
Vc. 1

82  
Vc. 2

82  
Vc. 3

82  
Vc. 4

82  
org.

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the hymn 'The Steps I Take'. The page is numbered 14. It features a vocal quartet (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and instrumental accompaniment. The vocal parts are written in treble clef (Soprano, Alto, Tenor) and bass clef (Bass). The lyrics are: 'find my way, and I am free.' The instrumental parts include a Piano (Pno.) with both treble and bass staves, four Violins (Vc. 1-4) in bass clef, and an Organ (org.) with both treble and bass staves. The score is marked with a rehearsal sign '82' at the beginning of each system. The vocal parts have a melodic line with some rests and a final phrase 'free.' with a fermata. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords in the right hand. The string quartet and organ provide harmonic support with sustained notes and chords.

The Steps I Take

89 *ff*  
S You bear my bur - dens -

89 *ff*  
A You bear my bur -

89 *ff*  
T You bear my bur -

89 *ff*  
B You bear my bur -

89 *ff*  
Pno.

89 *ff*  
Vc. 1

89 *ff*  
Vc. 2

89 *ff*  
Vc. 3

89 *ff*  
Vc. 4

89 *ff*  
org.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, titled 'The Steps I Take', is page 15. It features a vocal quartet (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and instrumental accompaniment. The vocal parts enter at measure 89 with the lyrics 'You bear my burdens'. The Soprano part has a melodic line with a slur over the final two notes. The Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts provide harmonic support. The instrumental parts include Piano (Pno.), Violins 1-4 (Vc. 1-4), and Organ (org.). The Piano part has a complex texture with multiple voices. The Violins 1-4 parts play a steady accompaniment. The Organ part provides a harmonic foundation. The dynamic marking *ff* (fortissimo) is indicated for the vocal parts and the Organ part. The score is written in a common time signature.



The Steps I Take

96  
S - - You who care for me: \_\_\_\_\_ In You I

96  
A dens - You who care \_\_\_\_\_ for me: \_\_\_\_\_ In You I

96  
T 8 - - dens - You who care \_\_\_\_\_ for me: \_\_\_\_\_ In \_\_\_\_\_

96  
B - dens - You \_\_\_\_\_ who care for me: \_\_\_\_\_ In \_\_\_\_\_

96  
Pno.

96  
Vc. 1

96  
Vc. 2

96  
Vc. 3

96  
Vc. 4

96  
org.

The Steps I Take

102  
S find my way, and I am free.

102  
A find my way, and I am free. I am

102  
T You I find my way, and I am free. I am

102  
B You I find my way, and

102  
Pno.

102  
Vc. 1

102  
Vc. 2

102  
Vc. 3

102  
Vc. 4

102  
org.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, numbered 17, is titled "The Steps I Take". It features a vocal ensemble consisting of Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B), along with instrumental accompaniment for Piano (Pno.), Violins 1-4 (Vc. 1-4), and Organ (org.). The score begins at measure 102. The vocal parts have the following lyrics: Soprano: "find my way, and I am free."; Alto: "find my way, and I am free. I am"; Tenor: "You I find my way, and I am free. I am"; Bass: "You I find my way, and". The piano accompaniment includes a melodic line in the right hand and a harmonic line in the left hand. The string quartet (Violins 1-4) and organ provide a steady accompaniment with sustained notes and chords.

The Steps I Take

107

S

107

A

free.

107

T

8

free.

107

B

I am free.

107

Pno.

107

Vc. 1

*f* *mf*

107

Vc. 2

*f* *mf*

107

Vc. 3

*f* *mf*

107

Vc. 4

*f* *mf*

107

org.

*f* *mf*

The Steps I Take

113

S

113

A

113

T

8

113

B

113

Pno.

113

Vc. 1

113

Vc. 2

113

Vc. 3

113

Vc. 4

113

org.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, titled 'The Steps I Take', contains measures 113 through 118. The score is arranged in a system with ten staves. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and Piano (Pno.) are in the first system, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The strings (Violins 1-4 and Organ) are in the second system, with Violins 1-3 and Organ in bass clef, and Violin 4 in treble clef. The organ part is written in a grand staff. The vocal parts and Piano have rests in measures 113-117, with notes appearing in measure 118. The string parts play a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes in measures 113-117, followed by a melodic phrase in measure 118. The organ part plays a similar rhythmic pattern in measures 113-117, followed by a melodic phrase in measure 118. The page number '19' is in the top right corner.