

# **Naked I came and naked I will depart**

for SATB voices

2002

**Tony K.T. Leung**

## **Contact**

Tony K.T. Leung  
Canada

[www.composer.net](http://www.composer.net)  
[leung@composer.net](mailto:leung@composer.net)

## Program note

The title of *Naked I came and naked I will depart* is taken from the bible passage Job 1:21. Along with his physical suffering, Job struggles with spiritual and philosophical questions. His three “friends” are quick to provide “answers” to his dilemma. Job’s demand for vindication ultimately leads to God’s rebuke. Only after Job’s repentance did his troubles end.

## Text

(from the book of Job)

*From my mother’s womb, naked I came.  
From my mother’s womb, naked I will depart.  
The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away.  
May the name of the Lord be praised.  
Why did I not perish at birth and die as I came  
from my mother’s womb?  
I have no peace, no rest, only turmoil.  
Does not man have hard service on earth?  
Are not his days like those of a hired man?  
Like a slave longing for the evening shadows.  
Like a hired man, waiting for his wages.  
From my mother’s womb, naked. I depart,  
naked.*

*Man born of woman is of few days and full of  
trouble.  
Like a fleeting shadow, he does not endure.  
He feels but the pain of his own body and  
mourns only for himself.  
Like a hired man, waiting for his wages.  
I know that you can do all things;  
Surely I spoke of things I did not understand.  
Things too wonderful for me to know.  
My ears had heard of you but now my eyes  
have seen you.  
I despise myself and repent.  
From my mother’s womb, naked. I depart,  
naked.  
May the name of the Lord be praised.*

## Duration

10’

## Notes

1. The pronunciation of *Ma* and *Me* starting in bar 16 is as follows: *Ma* as in “*Mama*”, and *Me* as in “*me*, myself and I”. *Ma-me* together sounds like a call to mother.

# Naked I came and naked I will depart

Tony K.T. Leung

♩ = 60

Soprano

Alto

Tenor *mp hum*

Bass *mp hum*

S.

A.

T.

B.

8

S. *mp* Two voices, repeatedly spoken, non synchronized  
There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright

A. *mp* Two voices, repeatedly spoken, non synchronized  
A man who fears God and shuns evil  
Does Job fear God for nothing?

T.

B.


2

12

S.  8

A.  8

T. 

B. 

16  $\downarrow = 60$


S.  *p*  
Ma\_\_\_\_\_

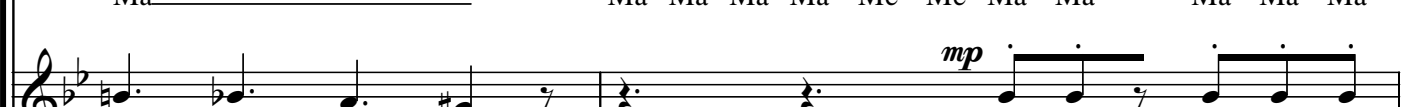
A.  *p*  
Ma\_\_\_\_\_


T.   
From my mo - ther's womb\_\_\_\_\_ Na - ked. Na - ked. Na - ked. I

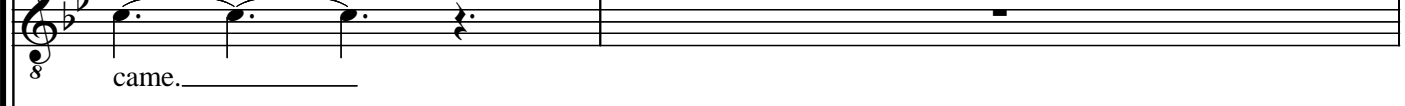
B.  *mf*  
Ma\_\_\_\_\_

19

S.  *mp*  
Ma\_\_\_\_\_ Ma Ma Ma Ma Me Me Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma

A.  *mp*  
Ma\_\_\_\_\_ Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma

T.  *p*  
came.\_\_\_\_\_

B.  *p*  
came.\_\_\_\_\_

21 3

S. *f* *ff*  
 Ma Ma Ma Ma Me Me Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Me Me Ma Me Ma Me

A. *f* *ff*  
 Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma

T. *mf* *f* *ff*  
 8 From my mo - ther's womb \_\_\_\_\_ Na - ked. Na - ked. Na - ked.

B. *mf*  
 Ma \_\_\_\_\_

23 *mp*

S. *mp*  
 Me Me Me Me Me Me Me Me Me Me Me Me Me Me Me

A. *mp*  
 Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma

T. *mf*  
 8 I will de - part \_\_\_\_\_

B. *mf*  
 Nay Nay Nay Nay Nay Nay Nay Nay

25 *mf*

S. *mf*  
 The Lord \_\_\_\_\_ gave \_\_\_\_\_ and the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ has ta - ken \_\_\_\_\_

A. *mf*  
 Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Me Me Me Me Me Me Me Me Me Me Me Me Me Me Me

T. *mf*  
 8

B. *mf*

4 27

S. *p* a - way.

A. *p* way *mp* Ma Ma Ma

T. *p* way *mf* From my mo - ther's womb

B. *p* way *mp* Nay Nay Nay Nay Nay Nay Nay Nay



29

S. *mp* Me Me Me Me *mf* came

A. *mf* Ma Ma Ma Ma came

T. *gliss.* Na - ked. I came. *mp* I will de - part.

B. *mf* came. *mp* I will de - part.



32 *mf*

S. May the name of the Lord be praised.

A. *p* Na - ked. *mf* Lord be praised.

T. *p* Na - ked. *mf* Lord be praised.

B. *p* Na - ked. *mf* Lord be praised.



35 *f* *mp* *mf*

S. Why Why

A. *f* *mp* Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why

T. Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why

B. *mp* Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why

*acc.*  $\text{♩} = 96$   $\text{♩} = 69$

6 37

S. Why Why

A. Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why

T. *mf* Why did I not

B. Why Why Why Why *mf* Why



38

S. Why

A. Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why

T. pe - rish at birth? Why did

B. did I not pe - -

S. *Why Why*

A. *Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why Why*

T. *I not pe - rish at birth*

B. *rish?*

S. *and die*

A. *mf and die*

T. *mp and die as I came from my mo - ther's womb?*

B. *mp from my mo - ther's womb?*

S.

A.

T. *mf 2 I have no peace. no rest on - ly*

B. *peace rest*

8 46 *mf* *gliss.*

S. *mf* *gliss.*  
moil

A. *mf*  
moil

T. *mf*  
tur - moil tur - moil

B. *mf*  
moil



♩ = 60

49 *mp* Two voices, repeatedly spoken, non synchronized 4

S. *mp* Two voices, repeatedly spoken, non synchronized 4  
Do not despise the discipline of the almighty.  
Who, being innocent, has ever perished?

A. *mp* Two voices, repeatedly spoken, non synchronized 4  
Who, being innocent, has ever perished?  
Where were the upright ever destroyed?

T. *mp hum*

B. *mp hum*

53

S.

A.

T.

B.



57 ♩ = 72

S.

A.

T. *solo* *mf*

B. *p*

B. *p*

10 59

S. *p* Why Why Why Ah

A. *p* Why Why Why Ah

T. on earth? Are not his days like those of a hired

B. man

61

S.

A.

T. man? Like a slave long - ing for the eve - ning sha - dows Like a

B. man Like a

*mf*

S.

A.

T. hired man wai - ting for his wa - ges.

B. hired man wai - ting for his wa - ges.

67 ♩ = 60

S. na - ked

A. na - ked

T. I de - part.

B. From my mo - ther's womb

71

S. *mp hum*

A. *mp hum*

T. *mp Two voices, repeatedly spoken, non synchronized*  
 Your words are a blustering wind.  
 Surely God does not reject a blameless man.

B. *mp Two voices, repeatedly spoken, non synchronized*  
 Surely God does not reject a blameless man.  
 Your words are a blustering wind.

12 75

S. 


A. 


T. 

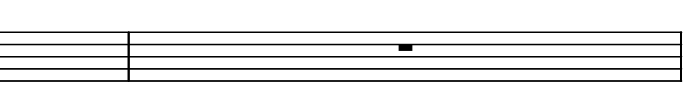
B. 

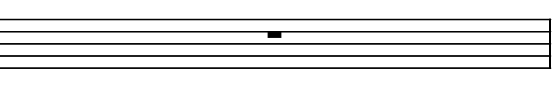
**||** ♩ = 72

79 *mf*

S.  Man born of wo - man is of few days\_\_\_\_\_ and full of trou -

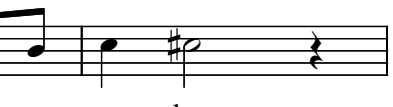
A.  *mp* 3 Why Why Why\_\_\_\_\_ Why


T. 

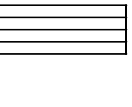
B. 

**||**

82

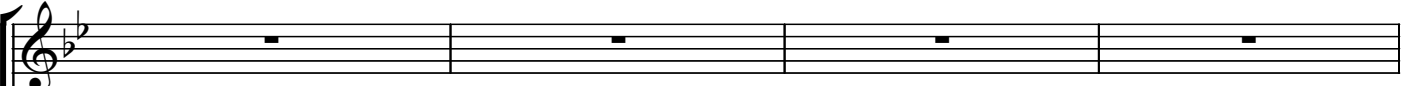
S.  ble Like a flee-ting sha - dow he does not en - dure

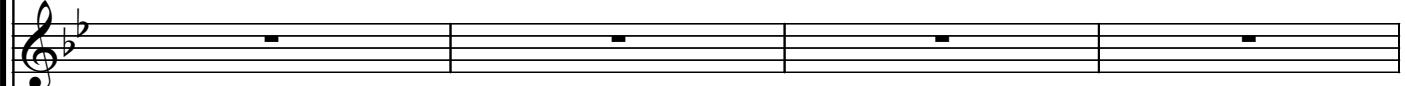
A.  \_\_\_\_\_ en - dure


T. 

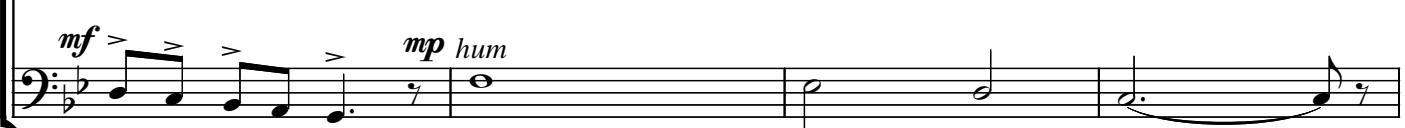
B. 



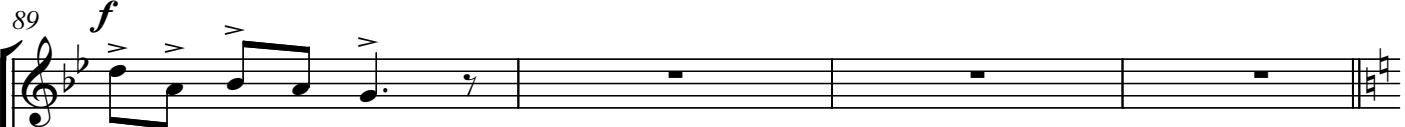
S. 

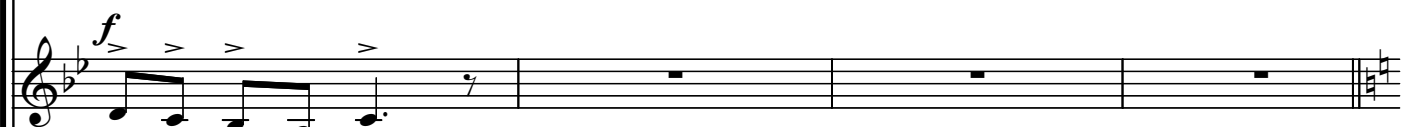
A. 


T. *mf* 
  
He feels but the pain of his own bo - dy\_ and mourns on - ly for him - self


B. *mf* 
  
He feels but the pain *mp hum*



S. *f* 
  
Like a hired\_ man

A. *f* 
  
He feels but the pain

T. *f* 
  
Like a hired\_ man wai - ting for his wa - ges *mf*

B. *f* 
  
He feels but the pain *mp hum*

14 93 ♩ = 60

S. *mp hum*

A. *mp Two voices, repeatedly spoken, non synchronized*  
Your own mouth condemns you, not mine.  
Your own lips testify against you.

T. *mp Two voices, repeatedly spoken, non synchronized*  
Do you limit wisdom to yourself?  
What do you know that we do not know.

B. *mp hum*



S. 97

A. *hum*

T. *f spoken*  
I have heard many things like these; miserable comforters are you all!

B.

101 ♩ = 66

S. \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_ *mp* You can do all things

T. *solo mf* I know that you can do all things— *Ad. lib.* Sure-ly I spoke of things I did not  
*mp hum follow solo*

B. \_\_\_\_\_

104

S. \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_

T. un - der - stand Things too won - der - ful for me to know

B. \_\_\_\_\_

106

S. \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_

T. *A tempo* My ears had heard of you— but now my eyes have seen— you

B. *A tempo* I have seen— you

16 109 *mf*

S. *mf*  
I know that you can do all things\_\_\_\_\_

A. *mf*  
I know that you can do all things\_\_\_\_\_

T. unis. *mf*  
You can do all things\_\_\_\_\_

B. *mf*  
You can do all things



111

S. *mf*  
Sure-ly I spoke of things I did not un-der - stand Things too won - der - ful for me to know

A. *mf*  
Sure-ly I spoke of things I did not un-der - stand Things too won - der - ful for me to know

T. *mf*  
Un - der - stand

B. *mf*  
You can do all things won - der - ful for me to

114 17

**rit.**

S. My ears had heard of you — but now my eyes have seen — you

A. My ears had heard of you — but now my eyes have seen — you

**rit.**

T. Now I have seen — you

**rit.**

B. know I have seen — you



117 **Tempo I** *mf* ♩ = 76

S. *mf* Does not man have hard ser - vice

A. *mf* Does not man have hard ser - vice

**f Tempo I**

T. I des - pise my self and re - pent *mp* Does not man have

**f Tempo I**

B. I des - pise my self and re - pent *mp* Man

18 120

S. on earth? Are not his days like those of a hired

A. on earth? Are not his days like those of a hired

T. <sup>3</sup> hard ser - vice Does not man

B. Man



122

S. man? Like a slave long-ing for the eve - ning sha - dows Like a *mf*

A. man? Like a slave long-ing for the eve - ning sha - dows Like a *mf*

T. have hard ser - - - - vice Like a *mf*

B. Man Like a *mf*

125

S. hired man wai - ting for his wa - ges

A. hired man wai - ting for his wa - ges

T. hired man

B. hired man



128 *mp* simile

S. Ma Ma Ma

A. *mf* Man born of wo - man is of few days

T.

B. *mf* I know that you can do all things Sure - ly

20 131

S. *3* *3* *3* *3* Does not man have

A. and full of trou - ble

T. *mp* simile  
8 *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3*  
Ma Ma Ma

B. *3* I spoke of things I did not un - der - stand



133

S. hard ser - vice on earth *3* *3* *3*

A. Like a flee - ting sha - dow he does not en - dure *3*

T. 8 *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3*

B. Things too won - der - ful for me to know — Not en - dure



136 *f*

S. *f*  
From my mo - ther's womb

A. *f*  
From my mo - ther's womb

T. *f* *mp*  
From my mo - ther's womb na - ked I de - part na - ked

B. *f*  
From my mo - ther's womb

140 ♩ = 60

S.

A.

T. *mp hum*

B. *mp hum*

143

S.

A.

T.

B.

22 147

*mp hum*

S.

A.

T.

B.



150

S.

A.

T. solo *mf* spoken

B.

My ears had heard of you, but now my eyes have seen you.

154 23

S. *mf* *mp*  
I de - part Na - ked

A. *mf* *mp*  
I de - part Na - ked

T. *mf*  
From my mo - ther's womb na - ked na - ked I de - part

B. *mf*  
From my mo - ther's womb na - ked na - ked I de - part



158 *f*

S. *f*  
May the name of the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ be praised \_\_\_\_\_

A. *f*  
The Lord be praised \_\_\_\_\_

T. *f*  
The Lord be praised \_\_\_\_\_

B. *f*  
The \_\_\_\_\_ Lord be praised \_\_\_\_\_