

In dedication of the 100th commemoration of the Armenian Genocide, April 24, 2015

If You Visit Me

(S.A.T.B., divisi, a cappella)

based on a poem by
Hovannes Toumanian (1869-1923)
Translation from Armenian by Daniel Janoyan

Kevin A. Memley

Rubato ♩ = 72

SOPRANO
If one day, my dear friend,

ALTO
If one day, my dear friend,

TENOR
If one day, my dear friend,

BASS
If one day, my dear friend,

Piano
(for rehearsal only)

5 *mp* *mf* 7 *sub p*

If one day you vis - it me at my grave, and you find fresh

6 *mp* *mf* *sub p*

If one day you vis - it me at my grave, and you find fresh

7 *mp* *mf* *sub p*

If one day you vis - it me at my grave, and you find fresh

8 *mp* *mf* *sub p*

If one day you vis - it me at my grave, and you find fresh

9 *p*

flow - ers new - ly plant - ed 'round

10 *p*

flow - ers new - ly plant - ed 'round my grave,

flow - ers new - ly plant - ed 'round my

flow - ers new - ly plant - ed 'round my

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11 *sub f* 12 13 *mp*

my grave, don't ev-er take them to be reg-u-lar flow - ers_ un-der your

grave, don't ev-er take them to be reg-u-lar flow - ers_

grave, don't ev-er take them to be reg-u-lar flow - ers_

grave, don't ev-er take them to be reg-u-lar flow - ers_

14 15 16 *mf*

feet. Those_ are my songs that have

mp *mf*

un - der your feet. Those are my songs that have

mp *mf*

un - der your_ feet, your feet. Those_ are my songs that have

mp *mf*

un - der your feet. Those are my songs that have

Slower, intense

17 18 19

nev - er been sung, car-ried a-way in my heart with me._____

nev - er been sung, car-ried a-way in my heart wi_ me._____

nev - er been sung, car-ried a-way in my heart with me._____

nev - er been sung, car-ried a-way in my heart with me._____

20 *mp* 21 22 *p*

Those were vers-es of love, which I had_ no chance to re - cite be -

mp *p*

Those were vers-es of love, which I had no chance to re - cite be -

mp *p*

Those were vers-es of love, which I had no chance to re - cite be -

mp *p*

Those were vers-es of love, which I had no chance to re - cite be -

For review purposes only. Photocopying this music is not permitted.

37 38 39 40 41 *morendo*
pp
rit.
pp
pp
pp
rit.
morendo

fore I died.

fore I... Oo

fore I... Oo

fore I... Oo

fore I... Oo

A word from Daniel Janoyan...

I looked into Toumanian's biography where one reads, "Toumanian was never an "armchair" poet. He was always in the "thick of things" and in the center of all the important events of his time. His time witnessed stormy upheavals: international conflicts in the Caucasus; World War I; the genocide of Armenians in Turkey; revolutions; and civil wars. Toumanian wouldn't have been Toumanian if he had remained aloof and simply wrote poetry. Thousands upon thousands of voices of his people echoed their hopes and sufferings in his heart. "I live and agonize with everybody, I suffer for all," he wrote.

This being the case I believe as his poem "If You Visit Me" states, Toumanian had a lot more to write and say to his community and the world at large. It is therefore only befitting that this poem, and now a song, be dedicated to the 100th commemoration of the Armenian Genocide which is April 24, 2015 as a reminder to the whole world to avoid future genocides. I believe Toumanian would have loved to see his voice heard crying for love, justice and peace to prevail all around the world. A voice that has been carried over for a century now by generations who came after him demanding recognition of the Armenian Genocide by the Turkish government as well as the international community at large.



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