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GREG BARTHOLOMEW

BE NEAR ME

A setting of *Canto 50* from the poem
In Memoriam A.H.H. by Alfred Tennyson

for unaccompanied mixed choir (SATB)



BURKE & BAGLEY

Duration: ca. 5'15"

BE NEAR ME

A setting of *Canto 50* from the poem *In Memoriam A.H.H.* by Alfred Tennyson
for unaccompanied mixed choir (SATB)

Be near me when my light is low,
When the blood creeps, and the nerves prick
And tingle; and the heart is sick,
And all the wheels of Being slow.

Be near me when the sensuous frame
Is racked with pangs that conquer trust;
And Time, a maniac scattering dust,
And Life, a Fury slinging flame.

Be near me when my faith is dry,
And men the flies of latter spring,
That lay their eggs, and sting and sing
And weave their petty cells and die.

Be near me when I fade away,
To point the term of human strife,
And on the low dark verge of life
The twilight of eternal day

The text for **Be Near Me** is *Canto 50* from the poem *In Memoriam A.H.H.* by the British Poet Laureate Alfred Tennyson (1809 -1892). Published in 1850, the poem is an extended requiem for the poet's beloved friend Arthur Henry Hallam, who died of a cerebral hemorrhage in 1833, age 22, and is considered one of the greatest poems of the 19th Century and was reported to be a great favorite of Queen Victoria.

The cover image is *Portrait of the Late Lord Tennyson as a Young Man* by Samuel Lawrence (1812-1884), a public domain image.

For information about the composer, visit gregbartholomew.com.

If you perform this work in public, please send a PDF of the concert program to office@burkeandbagley.com.

BURKE & BAGLEY

www.burkeandbagley.com

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Be Near Me

Alfred Tennyson

Greg Bartholomew

Lento $\text{♩} = 72$

A

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

Piano for rehearsal only

Be near me when my light is low, _____

Be near me. Be

Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be

Lento $\text{♩} = 72$

A

5

Be near me when my light is low, _____

Be near me when my light is low, _____ When the

near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be

near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be

Be Near Me

10

When the blood creeps, and the nerves prick,— prick and ting-le;
blood creeps, When the blood creeps, and the nerves prick,— prick and ting-le;
near me.—— Be near me.—— Be near me.—— Be near me.—— Be
near me.—— Be near me.—— Be near me.—— Be near me.—— Be

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14

and the heart is sick, And all the wheels of Be-ing— slow. the *mp*
and the heart is sick, And all the wheels of Be-ing— slow. the *mp*
near me.—— Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me.
near me.—— Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be

Be Near Me

19

wheels of Be - ing slow. wheels of Be - ing slow. Be near me. Be near me. Be

near me. Be near me. Be

23 **B**

Be near me. Be near me.

near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be

near me when the sen-su-ous frame. Be

Be Near Me

27

Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be
near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be
near me when the sen-su-ous frame Is rack'd with pangs, with pangsthat con-quer
near me when the sen-su-ous frame Is rack'd with pangs, with pangsthat con-quer

31

near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be *mf*
near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be *mf*
trust; And Time, a man-i-ac, man-i-ac, a man-i-ac scat-ter-ing dust.
trust; And Time, a man-i-ac, man-i-ac, a man-i-ac scat-ter-ing dust.

Be Near Me

35

near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me.

near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be

f And Life, a Fu - ry, a Fu-ry__ sling-ing flame.

f And Life, a Fu - ry a Fu-ry__ sling-ing flame.

mp

mf

mp

40

Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be

near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be

mf Be near me when my faith is dry, _____

C

C

Be Near Me

45

near me... Be near me... Be near me... Be near me... Be near me... Be

near me... Be near me... Be near me... Be

Be near me when my faith is dry, And

mf

Be near me when my faith is dry, And

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50

near me... Be near me... Be near me... Be near me... Be

near me... Be near me... Be near me... Be near me... Be

men the flies of lat-ter spring, That lay their eggs, and sting and sting and sing

men the flies of lat-ter spring, That lay their eggs, and sting and sting and sing

Be Near Me

54

near me._____ Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be
near me._____ Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be
And weave their pet-ty cells their pet-ty cells and die.
And weave their pet-ty cells their pet-ty cells and die.

59

near me. Be near me. **D**
near me. *mf* Be near me when I fade a - way, _____
mf *mp* Be near me.____ Be near me.____ Be near me.____ Be
mp Be near me.____ Be
D

Be Near Me

64

mf

Be near me when I fade a-way, _____

Be near me when I fade a-way, _____ To point the

8 near me.____ Be near me.____ Be near me.____ Be near me.____ Be near me.____ Be

near me.____ Be near me.____ Be near me.____ Be

near me.____ Be near me.____ Be near me.____ Be

near me.____ Be near me.____ Be near me.____ Be

69

To point the term of hu-man strife,____ hu-man strife,____ and

term,____ point the term of hu-man strife,____ hu-man strife,____ and

8 near me.____ Be near me.____ Be near me.____ Be near me.____ Be

near me.____ Be near me.____ Be near me.____ Be near me.____ Be

near me.____ Be near me.____ Be near me.____ Be

near me.____ Be near me.____ Be near me.____ Be

Be Near Me

73

on the low dark verge of life The twi-light of e-ter-nal day, of_

on the low dark verge of life The twi-light of e-ter-nal day, of_

near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be

near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be

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78

e-ter-nal day. **f** //

e-ter-nal day. **f** **p** **mp** Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be

near me. Be near me. **mp** Be

near me. Be near me. **mp** Be near me. Be

// **E**

Be Near Me

83

Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be
near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be
near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be
near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be

mp *mf* *f* *mf* *mf* *f* *mf*

mf *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

mf *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

mf *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

88

near me. Be near me.
near me. Be near me. Be near me.
near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me.
near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me. Be near me.

mp rit. *mp* *p*

mp *p*

mp *p*

mp *p*

rit. *mp* *p*

rit. *mp* *p*

$\text{♩} = 56$ $\text{♩} = 56$