

Brad Hansen

Choral Settings  
of  
E. E. Cummings Poems

1. So shy shy shy (and with a

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## 1. So shy, shy, shy (and with a

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So shy shy shy (and with a  
look the very boldest man  
can scarecely dare to meet no matter  
how he'll try to try)

So wrong (wrong, wrong) and with a  
smile at which the rightest man  
remembers there's such a thing  
as spring and wonders why

So gay gay gay and with a  
wisdom that the wisest man  
will partly understand (although  
the wisest man am i)

So young young young and with a  
something makes the oldest man  
(whoever he may be) the only  
man who'll never died.

Slowly; thoughtfully

The musical score consists of two systems of music. The top system shows four staves: SOPRANO, ALTO, TENOR, and BASS. The SOPRANO, ALTO, and BASS staves are mostly silent. The TENOR staff begins with a fermata over a whole note, followed by a dotted half note, a quarter note, and a sharp eighth note. The lyrics "So shy, shy," are written below the notes. The bottom system shows a piano staff with a treble clef, a bass clef, and a key signature of one sharp. The piano part starts with a single eighth note, followed by a series of eighth-note chords. The instruction "mp legato" is written above the piano staff. Both systems are in common time (indicated by a '6' over a '4').

Slowly; thoughtfully

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

Piano

*mp legato*

3

4

S.

A.

T. *cresc.*

B.

Pno.

shy, and with a look, the ve-ry bold - est man can scarce-ly

7

S.

A.

T. dare to meet, no mat-ter how he'll try to

B.

Pno.

*Re.* *Re.* *Re.* *Re.*

10

S.

A.

T. *mp*  
try. So wrong, wrong,

B.

Pno.

13

S.

A. *mp* cresc.  
So wrong, wrong, wrong, and with a

T. cresc.  
wrong, and with a smile at which the right - est man re-mem-bers

B.

Pno.

16 5

S. A. T. B. Pno.

smile at which the right - est man re - mem - bers

there is such a thing as spring and

Pno. Ped. \* Ped.

18

S. A. T. B. Pno.

there is such a thing as spring and won - ders why.  
won - ders why, won-ders, and won - ders why.

22

S.

A. *mp*

T. *mp*  
So gay, gay, gay, and with a

B.

Pno.

*Re.* *Re.* *Re.*

25

S.

A. *cresc.*

T. *cresc.*  
gay, gay, gay, and with a wis - dom not the wis - est

B. *mf*  
wis - dom not the wis - est man will partly un - der-stand al-though the

Pno.

*Re.* *Re.* *Re.*

28

7

S.

A. man will part - ly un - der-stand al-though the wis - est

T. wis - est man am I, wis - est

B. gay, and with a wis - dom not the wis - est man will part - ly

Pno.

31

S.

A. man am L, man am

T. man, wis - est man am

B. un - der-stand al-though the wis - est man am

Pno. *mf* *cresc.* *ff*

*ped.* *ped.*

34

S. *Maestoso* *mf*  
So

A. *mf*  
I. So

T. *mf*  
I. So

B. *f*  
I. So

Pno. *Maestoso*

36

S. young, young, young, and with a some - thing makes the ol - dest man who - e - ver

A. young, young, young, and some - thing makes man who

T. young, young, young, and some - thing makes man who

B. young, young, young, and some - thing makes man who

40

S. he may be the on - ly man who'll ne - ver die.

A. he be man who'll ne - ver die.

T. he be man who'll ne - ver die.

B. he be man who'll ne - ver die.

44

S. May be man will ne - ver die.

A. May be man will ne - ver die.

T. May be man will ne - ver die.

B. May be man will ne - ver die.