

# Mercy Song

from "SOUTH DAKOTA SHADOWS"

Commissioned to commemorate the centennial celebration of South Dakota in 1989  
Commissioned by the Master Singers of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Alan Stanga, Music Director

Rita Crom

Jackson Berkey

poem: "Mercy Song, A Spiritual"

## Tempo rubato

Musical score for the first system of "Mercy Song" in a rubato tempo. The score includes staves for Soprano/Alto (SA), Tenor/Bass (TB), and Piano (P). The lyrics are "Mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy, \_\_\_". The piano part features a prominent bass line with a *ff* dynamic. The vocal parts are marked with *ff* and include accents and slurs.

Musical score for the second system of "Mercy Song" in a rubato tempo. The score includes staves for Soprano/Alto (SA), Tenor/Bass (TB), and Piano (P). The lyrics are "Lord, have mer - cy on you \_\_\_ and me.". The piano part features a prominent bass line with a *mp* dynamic. The vocal parts are marked with *mf* and include accents and slurs.

## Tempo di Down and Dirty { $\text{♩} = \text{circa } 88 - 92$ }

Musical score for the "Tempo di Down and Dirty" section. The score includes staves for Piano (P) and Electric Bass (EB). The piano part starts with a box labeled "A" above measure 10. The electric bass part includes a "pitch bend" instruction. The tempo is marked as "Tempo di Down and Dirty" with a quarter note equal to approximately 88-92 beats per minute.

14

Pf

BS

**B**

18

PIANO

ACOUSTIC GUITAR

ELECTRIC BASS

*f*

*f*

Cm7

\* Electric piano doubles  
acoustic piano right hand

22

SA

TB

Pf

GTR

BS

*mf* (laid back)

(*tutti*) Ah

*f* (*tutti*) The

*meno f*

(Cm7)

*meno f*

**C**

26

SA

TB

Lord and the dev - il are choos - in' up sides, And some must go where the

Pf

GTR

BS

Cm7

29

SA

Ah

TB

dev - il rides, — The lots are cast on the earth - ly plain, — And

Pf

GTR

BS

(Cm7)

(no breath)