

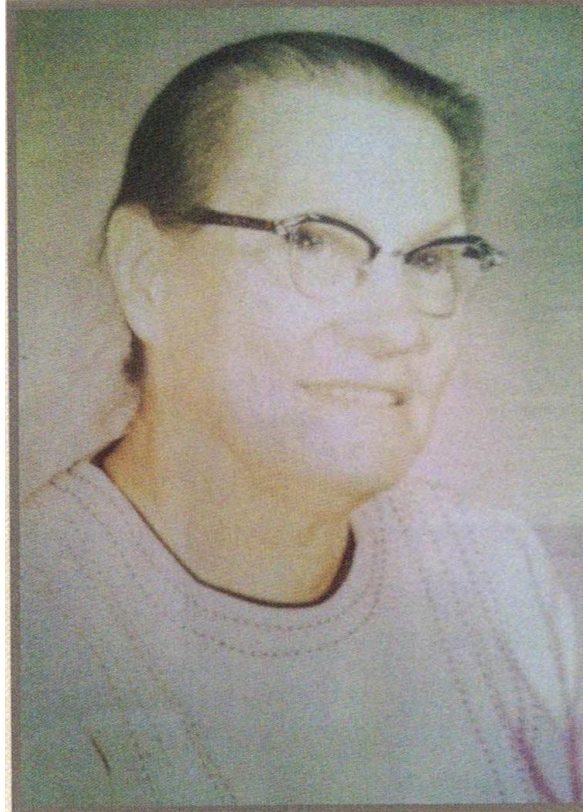
A Song For Elton

Variations on "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone"

Composer: Thomas Shepherd (1665–1739)

Arranger: Jason Dovel

3'00"



Program Notes

This piece is written in memory of the grandmother I never met, Elton, who lost her battle with cancer in 1975. Elton lived her entire life in Stanley, Virginia, and raised nine children with a love of music, who regularly gathered for family sing-alongs. This piece is based on Elton's favorite hymn, "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone."

Lyrics:

Must Jesus bear the cross alone, and all the world go free? No, there's a cross for everyone, and there's a cross for me.

How happy are the saints above, who once went sorrowing here! But now they taste unmingled love, and joy without a tear.

The consecrated cross I'll bear, 'till death shall set me free; And then go home my crown to wear, For there's a crown for me.

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Jason Dovel (2020)/Thomas Shepherd (1665-1739)

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Reverently ♩ = 69

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb) and a 3/4 time signature. The tempo is marked 'Reverently' with a quarter note equal to 69 beats per minute. The score consists of eight staves of music, with measure numbers 8, 17, 23, 31, 36, 42, 50, and 59 indicated at the beginning of their respective staves. The dynamics range from *mp* (mezzo-piano) to *ff* (fortissimo). The piece includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and a triplet in measure 36. The tempo changes to 'Faster' at measure 42 and returns to 'Reverently' at measure 59, with a 'rit.' (ritardando) marking at the end of the piece.