

## Notes From The Composer

The idea for "Cross To Bear" was written on a napkin in 1988, then tossed into a drawer when I got home and forgotten. While in a recording session in 1994 I played the chorale as best as I could remember then added a swing section, and ended by playing the chorale twice, with different harmonization. It did not appear on the resulting CD. However, Phillip Rice, preparing for a concert and recording session with the Chattanooga Choral Arts, heard the tape and thought that the piece would make a good gospel song if it were harmonized for voices the same manner as I had played it. In order to capture the essence of the swing section, I modulated up a fourth and wrote for double choir. Choir one is polytonal, singing open fourths swing style in five different keys, while choir two sings a circle of fifths progression on the beat. Chattanooga Choral Arts premiered the piece on May 16, 2002.

— Dave Brubeck

Dave Brubeck (1920–2012)

A jazz pianist who is noted for his improvisational skills, Dave Brubeck is also the composer of many fully-notated works, including choral, hymns, orchestral, chamber music, ballet suites, a string quartet, solo pieces for piano, violin & voice, and large-scale works for chorus and orchestra. He has been designated a "Living Legend" by the Library of Congress and a "Jazz Master" by the National Endowment for the Arts.

For more information, please visit [alfred.com](http://alfred.com).



6 *mf*  
 S cross to bear. On the cross - roads of life you'll find  
 A cross to bear. On the cross - roads of life you'll find  
 T 8 cross to bear. cross - roads of life you'll find  
 B cross to bear. cross - roads of life you'll find

6 *mf*

11 *sub. p*  
 S hard - ship and strife, yes we all have our cross to bear. We  
 A hard - ship and strife, yes we all have our cross to bear. We  
 T 8 hard - ship and strife, yes we all have our cross to bear.  
 B hard - ship and strife, yes we all have our cross to bear.

11 *sub. p*

17

S all have our cross to bear.

A all have our cross to bear. (cross to bear)

T all have our cross to bear. (cross to bear)

B all have our cross to bear.

sub. *p*

sub. *p*

\*Optional cut to m. 47

21 **In a bright 4**

S

A

T *p* Cross to bear cross to bear Yes we have our cross to bear *mp* Cross to bear cross to bear Yes we have our cross

B *p* Cross to bear cross to bear Yes we have our cross to bear *mp* Cross to bear cross to bear Yes we have our cross

21

*p*

*mp*

Jazz 8ths (swing)

25 *mf* *ff*

S Cross to bear, cross to bear, Yes we have our cross At the sound\_\_\_\_\_ of\_\_\_\_\_ the

A *mf* *ff*

T *mf* *ff*

B *mf* *ff*

8 Cross to bear, cross to bear, Yes we have our cross At the sound\_\_\_\_\_ of\_\_\_\_\_ the

25 *mf* *ff*

The piano accompaniment for measures 25-27 features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and a more complex eighth-note melody in the right hand, with dynamic markings of *mf* and *ff*.

28

S trum - pet's\_\_\_\_\_ blast,\_\_\_\_\_ the trum - pet's blast,\_\_\_\_\_ At the sound\_\_\_\_\_ of\_\_\_\_\_ the

A trum - pet's\_\_\_\_\_ blast,\_\_\_\_\_ the trum - pet's blast,\_\_\_\_\_ At the sound\_\_\_\_\_ of\_\_\_\_\_ the

T *8* trum - pet's\_\_\_\_\_ blast,\_\_\_\_\_ the trum - pet's blast,\_\_\_\_\_ At the sound\_\_\_\_\_ of\_\_\_\_\_ the

B trum - pet's\_\_\_\_\_ blast,\_\_\_\_\_ the trum - pet's blast,\_\_\_\_\_ At the sound\_\_\_\_\_ of\_\_\_\_\_ the

28

The piano accompaniment for measures 28-30 continues with the eighth-note rhythmic pattern, providing harmonic support for the vocal lines.

32

*mf*

S trum - pet's \_\_\_\_\_ blast, \_\_\_\_\_ the trum - pet's blast, \_\_\_\_\_ We'll be free, \_\_\_\_\_ free \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ last, \_\_\_\_\_ all our

*mf*

A trum - pet's \_\_\_\_\_ blast, \_\_\_\_\_ the trum - pet's blast, \_\_\_\_\_ We'll be free, \_\_\_\_\_ free \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ last, \_\_\_\_\_ all our

*mf*

T trum - pet's \_\_\_\_\_ blast, \_\_\_\_\_ the trum - pet's blast, \_\_\_\_\_ We'll be free, \_\_\_\_\_ free \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ last, \_\_\_\_\_ all our

*mf*

B trum - pet's \_\_\_\_\_ blast, \_\_\_\_\_ the trum - pet's blast, \_\_\_\_\_ We'll be free, \_\_\_\_\_ free \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ last, \_\_\_\_\_ all our

Optional Chorus 2

*ff*

S We'll be free at last, \_\_\_\_\_ all our

Optional Chorus 2 *ff*

A We'll be free at last, \_\_\_\_\_ all our

Optional Chorus 2 *ff*

T We'll be free at last, \_\_\_\_\_ all our

Optional Chorus 2 *ff*

B We'll be free at last, \_\_\_\_\_ all our

32

*mf*

32

Optional Chorus 2

*ff*



37

S  
strug - gles be past in a new life with - out a care,

A  
strug - gles be past in a new life with - out a care,

T  
8  
strug - gles be past in a new life with - out a care,

B  
strug - gles be past in a new life with - out a care,

S  
strug - gles be past In a new life with - out a life with-out a care,

A  
strug - gles be past In a new life with - out a life with-out a care,

T  
8  
strug - gles be past In a new life with - out a life with-out a care,

B  
strug - gles be past In a new life with - out a life with-out a care,

37

Piano accompaniment for the first system, measures 37-42.

37

Piano accompaniment for the second system, measures 37-42.



Repeat 3 times

42 *ff*

S — O no long - er a cross to bear.

A — O no long - er a cross to bear.

T <sub>8</sub> — O no long - er a cross to bear.

B — O no long - er a cross to bear.

S — No longer, a cross to, no cross to bear.

A — No longer, a cross to, no cross to bear.

T <sub>8</sub> — No longer, a cross to, no cross to bear.

B — No longer, a cross to, no cross to bear.

42 *ff*

42 *ff*





47 *mf*

S There's no bur - den that you can't bear, there's no

A There's no bur - den that you can't bear, there's no

T *mf*  
8 bur - den that you can't bear, (you can't bear) there's no

B *mf*  
bur - den that you can't bear, (you can't bear) there's no

47 *mf*

52

S bur - den that you can't bear, (you can't bear) for through

A bur - den that you can't bear, (you can't bear) for through

T *mf*  
8 bur - den that you can't bear, (you can't bear) for through

B *mf*  
bur - den that you can't bear, (you can't bear) for through

52

56

S God's love and care strength and grace will be there, and your

A God's love and care strength and grace will be there, and your

T God's love and care strength and grace will be there, and your

B God's love and care strength and grace will be there, and your

56

60

S hard - ship He'll glad - ly share (He'll share) We

A hard - ship He'll glad - ly share (He'll share)

T hard - ship He'll glad - ly share (He'll share)

B hard - ship He'll glad - ly share (He'll share)

60

*ff* *mf* *molto rit.*

64

S all have our cross to... You must car - ry the

A all have our cross to... You must car - ry the

T all have our cross to... car - ry the

B all have our cross to... car - ry the

64 all have our cross to... car - ry the

*mp* *pp* Slower

*mf* *mp* *pp*

*mf* *mp* *pp*

*mf* *mp* *pp*

*mp* *pp*

68

S hea - vy load, you must car - ry the hea - vy

A hea - vy load, (hea - vy load) you must car - ry the hea - vy

T hea - vy load, (hea - vy load) you must car - ry the hea - vy

B hea - vy load, (hea - vy load) you must car - ry the hea - vy

68 hea - vy load, (hea - vy load) you must car - ry the hea - vy

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73 *mp*

S load, \_\_\_\_\_ You must shoul - der the load to the

A load, \_\_\_\_\_ shoul - der the load to the

T 8 load, (hea - vy load) shoul - der the load to the

B load, (hea - vy load) shoul - der the load to the

73 *mp*

77 *rit. mf*

S end of the road. Yes we all have our cross to

A end of the road, Yes we all have our cross to

T 8 end of the road, *rit. mf* Yes we all have our cross to

B end of the road, *mf* Yes we all have our cross to

77 *rit. mf*

81 *f* // *mp* **Slower**

S bear. \_\_\_\_\_ We all have our

A bear. \_\_\_\_\_ (our cross to bear) // *mp* We all have our

T 8 (we all have our cross) \_\_\_\_\_ We all have our

B *f* // *mp* We all have our

81 *f* // *mp*

84 *pp* *rit.*

S cross to bear. \_\_\_\_\_

A *pp* *rit. mp* cross to Yes we all have our cross to bear.)

T 8 *pp* *rit.* cross to bear. (all have cross to bear)

B *pp* *rit.* (all have cross to bear)

84 *pp* *rit.*

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