

The Fruit of Life

Words: adapted from the
York Cycle of Mystery Plays

Music: TIMOTHY ROGERS (b. 1961)

With vigor ♩ = 48

ALTO I
ALTO II

f

1. A - dam and Eve, this is the place,

TENOR
BASS

f

5

Called Pa - ra - dise, grant - ed of grace, Spi - ces and herbs, fresh

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11

fruit on tree, Beasts, fowls and fish, all that you see.

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17

mf

2. In earth I make you Lord of all,

p

This work may be transposed up for performances by mixed voices (SATB).

21

Beasts un - to you shall be in thrall, This tree that bears the

mf

p

27

Fruit of Life, Look nei - ther you, nor Eve your wife.

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33

3. Who eats the fruit of good and ill, Shall have know - ing

mf

mf

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39

as was his skill, Bite bold - ly on; be not a - fraid.

f

f

poco rit.

45

Give A - dam some, and eke his bliss, and eke his bliss.

mf

p

mf

p

51 a tempo

4. A - - dam! A - - dam! Where are you there?

f

p Ah,

55

Why have you wrought, nak - ed and bare? I hear you, Lord, my

mf

p

p ah, I hear you, Lord,

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61

eyes not set on Eve made me, Lord, made me do wrong.

f

ah, Eve made me wrong.

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67

5. Why did you, Eve, co - erce your make

mf

p Ah,

71

Eat fruit I bade, none of it take? A worm, en - ticed me,

mf

f

p

p ah, Lord, a worm,

so wel - a - way! That ev - er I did this deed so ill!

77 *f*

ah, This deed so ill!

6. Ah! Wick-ed worm, on your womb glide, Be en - mi - ty, on

83 *f*

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ev - ry side. Now, Che-rub - bin, mine an - gel bright,

89

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To mid - dle earth, swift drive these two, swift drive these two.

95 *poco rit.* *Slower* *ff*

ff