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# Thee

for SSAA chorus a cappella

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EKRH0008

*Premiered November 17th 2018 by SIRENS*

*Kelsea McLean, artistic director*

*Charlottetown, PE, Canada*

words by

**L.M. MONTGOMERY**

music by

**E.K.R. HAMMELL**



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# original text

## THE DIFFERENCE

by L.M. Montgomery (1874-1942)

*When we were together, heart of my heart, on that unforgotten quest  
With your tender arm about me thrown and your head upon my breast  
There came a grief that was bitter and deep and straitly dwell with me  
And I shunned it not, so sweet it was to suffer and be with thee.*

*And now when no more against mine own is beating thine eager heart,  
When thine eyes are turned from the glance of mine and our ways far apart,  
A dear and long-sought joy has come my constant guest to be,  
And I love it not, so bitter it is, unfelt, unshared, by thee.*

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## about the composer

**E.K.R. Hammell** (Evan) is a Canadian composer, arranger, & music editor driven by the pursuit of unstoppable forward momentum. A recipient of the Lloyd Carr-Harris Composition prize, his original music and arrangements have been performed by the Canadian Men's Chorus; Denis Wick Canadian Wind Orchestra; provincial & state honour band ensembles of Saskatchewan, Minnesota, & Washington; PEI Symphony Orchestra; Exultate Chamber Singers; That Choir; Sirens; Charlottetown Festival Orchestra; Confederation Brass; Central Bucks West Choir; and the University of Toronto Wind Ensemble, to name just a few.



@ekrhammellmusic  
ekrhammell.com

Evan is currently based in Toronto, having received a Bachelor of Music Composition from the University of Toronto in 2017. Aside from devising pretentiously abbreviated stage names, his other talents mainly involve playing bass trombone and being impressively bad at cooking.

Evan's music is currently available through Santa Barbara Music Publishing, J.W. Pepper, and his own website at [ekrhammell.com](http://ekrhammell.com).

**(b. 1993)**

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## about the piece

**DURATION:** 4 mins

**PROGRAM NOTES:** *Thee* is an SSAA setting of the L.M. Montgomery poem "The Difference." The piece is a simple song meant as a reflection on heartbreak and the value of shared personal experiences.

The Heirs of L.M. Montgomery ask that the following statement please be included in any program, brochure, or handouts in connection with this composition: "**L.M. Montgomery**" is a trademark of Heirs of L.M. Montgomery Inc.

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**A**

Achingly, bittersweet (♩ = 76)

*mp* *mf* *mp*

SOPRANO 1  
SOPRANO 2

When we\_ were\_\_ to - ge ther, heart\_\_ of\_ my heart, With\_ your ten-der arm\_\_ a-bout me

ALTO 1  
ALTO 2

When we were\_\_ to - ge ther, heart of my heart, With\_ your ten-der arm\_\_ a-bout me

Piano  
(for rehearsal only)

Achingly, bittersweet (♩ = 76)

\* Figures involving triplet 8th (and their sextuplet 16th subdivisions) need not be interpreted literally/pedantically. A lilting ornamentation is all that is intended in these instances.

**B**

*poco rit.* *mf* *A tempo* *p* *Piu mosso* *mp* *mf*

8

thrown and your head u- pon\_ my\_\_ breast, There came a grief\_\_ that was bit ter\_\_ and\_ deep, I shunned it not, so\_\_

*mf* *p* *mp* *mf*

thrown and your head u-pon my breast, There came a grief\_\_ that was bit ter\_\_ and deep, I shunned it not, so

*poco rit.* *A tempo* *Piu mosso*

**C**

15 *rit.* *f* **Tempo primo** *mf*

sweet it was to suf fer and be with thee, to suf fer and be with thee. And now, when no

sweet it was to suf fer and be with thee, to suf fer and be with thee. And now, when no

*f* *mf*

*rit.* **Tempo primo**

**D**

21 *mp*

more a-against mine own, bea - ting thine ea-ger heart, When thine eyes are turned from my

more a-against mine own, bea - ting thine ea-ger heart, When thine eyes are turned from my

*mp*

**D**

**E**

27 *poco rit.* *mf* **Piu mosso**

glance, a long-sought joy has come my guest to be. And I love it not, so bit-ter it is un - felt un-shared by

glance, a long-sought joy has come my guest to be. And I love it not, so bit-ter it is un - felt un-shared by

*poco rit.* **Piu mosso**