



-Valley of Dry Bones-

Solo soprano, SATB choir (with divisions), and organ (optional)

Joel Rust

Text: Ezekiel 37:1-14, World English Bible (adapted)

Duration: c. 6 minutes

Performance notes

The organ accompaniment is optional; If used, it should only use 8' pipes.

mm. 1-33: – – – –> indicates a gradual transformation of the vowel sound. The vowels should be pronounced as follows:

a as in “man”

ah as in “car”

ee as in “these”

eh as in “flesh”

ih as in “it”

o as in “of”

oh as in “bone”

oo as in “too”

uh as in “up”

In most cases, these vowels will match that being sung by the soprano solo.

mm. 9-52, T. & B.: square noteheads (◼◻◻) indicate that each singer should sing the lowest note that they comfortably can.

mm. 34-45, S. & A.: Each singer acts independently; while all singers of one voice type will begin together, they should not coordinate with others. Once m. 46 has been reached, each singer should finish their current repetition of the phrase, and then begin the new phrase.

mm. 46-52, S. & A.: Each singer again acts independently, repeating the phrase freely until the end of m. 52. They should stop at the end of m. 52, even if they are mid-phrase.

m. 84: ◻◻ indicates a very long pause.

Cover image: “Ezekiel Raising the Dead,” from *The Cream of Histories* (Zubdat al-Tawarikh), 1583. Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts, Istanbul.

Valley of Dry Bones

$\text{♩} = 54$
p poco vib.

Soprano Solo
Yah - weh brought me to the mid-dle of the val - ley;

Soprano
p ***ppp***
a----->mm

Alto 1
p ***ppp***
ee----->mm

Alto 2
p ***ppp***
o----->mm

Tenor 1
p ***ppp***
uh----->mm

Tenor 2
p ***ppp***
oo----->mm

Bass
p ***ppp***
ih----->mm

Organ (optional)
p ***ppp*** Hold until final bar

4

S. Solo
and it was full of bones. He caused me to pass by them all a-round:

S.

A.

T.

B.

6

S. Solo

There were ve-ry ma - ny in the o - pen val - ley; and be - hold, they were ve - ry dry.

S.

A.

T.

B.

8

S. Solo

He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones li -

S.

mm -----> uh -----> a -----> ee -----> ih

A.

mm -----> o -----> a -----> oh

T.

Son of man, can these bones li -

B.

Son of man, can these bones li -

pp

p

p

Each singer should sing their lowest note.

14

S. Solo *p*
- ve?" I ans-wered, "Lord Yah - weh, You know."

S.

A.

T. *ppp*
ve? mm

B. *ppp*
ve? mm

16

S. Solo *pp* *mf*
He said, "You dry bones, hear Yah - weh's word: I will cause breath to

S. oo ee uh o

A. 1 uh ah eh

A. 2 oh eh ih oo

T. *p* *f*
You dry bones, hear Yah - weh's word: I will cause breath to

B. *p* *f*
You dry bones, hear Yah - weh's word: I will cause breath to

21 *pp*

S. Solo
en - ter in - to you, and you will live. I will lay sin - ews

S.
eh----->oo ----->ah----->ih-----

A. 1
----->uh----->oo----->ih----->oo

A. 2
----->ih----->a----->ih----->eh----->

T.
p
en - ter in - to you, and you will live. I will lay sin - ews

B.
p
en - ter in - to you, and you will live. I will lay sin - ews

26 *mf*

S. Solo
on you, and will bring up flesh on you, and co - ver you in skin, and

S.
----->oo----->ih----->o----->uh----->ih----->

A. 1
----->a----->uh----->oo----->uh----->ih----->

A. 2
o----->ih----->eh----->ah----->oo----->a----->

T.
f
on you, and will bring up flesh on you, and co - ver you in skin, and

B.
f
on you, and will bring up flesh on you, and co - ver you in skin, and

30 *pp* *mp*

S. Solo
put breath in___ you, and___ you will_ li - ve."

S.
uh ----->oo----->ih----->

A. 1
eh----->a----->ih----->

A. 2
ih----->oo----->

T. *p* *mf*
put breath in___ you, and___ you will_ li - ve.

B. *p* *mf*
put breath in___ you, and___ you will_ li - ve.

34 *p*

S. Solo
There was a noise, and be-hold, there was an earth - quake.

S.
mm

A. 1
mm

A. 2
ppp cresc. Repeat freely, each singer at their own pace.
p s tr t p t h p s st

T. *ppp*
mm

B. *ppp*
mm

36

S. Solo

Then the bones came to - ge - ther, bone to its bone. Be - hold,

S.

pp cresc. Repeat freely, each singer at their own pace.

A. 1

p s tr t p t h p s st

A. 2

pp cresc.

T.

B.

37

S. Solo

there were si - news on them, and flesh came up, and skin co - vered them from a - bove;

p cresc. Repeat freely, each singer at their own pace.

S.

p s tr t p t h p s st

A.

p cresc.

T.

B.

38

S. Solo
but there was no breath in them. Then_____ he said: "Come from the

S. *mp cresc.* *mf decresc.*

A. *mp cresc.* *mf decresc.*

T. *mf*
Come from the

B. *mf*
Come from the

41

S. Solo
four winds, breath, and breathe_____ on these slain that they may_ li -

S. *mp decresc.*

A. *mp decresc.*

T. *ff* *mp*
four winds, breath, and breathe_____ on these slain that they may_ li -

B. *ff* *mp*
four winds, breath, and breathe_____ on these slain that they may_ li -

46

S. Solo *mf*
ve." And the breath came in - to them, and they lived,

S. *pp cresc.*
Our bones are dried up and our hope is lost.
pp cresc.
[Begin this phrase when you have concluded a repetition of the previous phrase]

A. 1 *pp cresc.*
Our bones are dried up and our hope is lost.
pp cresc.
[Begin this phrase when you have concluded a repetition of the previous phrase]

A. 2 *pp cresc.*
Our bones are dried up and our hope is lost.

T. *ppp*
ve. mm

B. *ppp*
ve. mm

48

S. Solo *p cresc.* *f* *mp*
and stood up on their feet, an ex-ceed-ing-ly great ar - my. Then he said to me,

S. *p cresc.*

A. *p cresc.*

T. *ppp*

B. *ppp*

50

S. Solo *mf*
 "Son of man, these bones__ are the whole house of Is - ra - el. They say, Stop

mp cresc.

S. Stop

A. Stop

T. *mf*
 Son of man, these bones__ are the whole house of Is - ra - el. They say,

B. *mf*
 Son of man, these bones__ are the whole house of Is - ra - el. They say,

54

S. Solo *mf* To S. 1
 'Our bones are dried up,___ and our hope is lost.'"

S. *mf*
 Our bones are dried up,___ and our hope is lost.

A. *mf*
 Our bones are dried up,___ and our hope is lost.

T. *mf*
 'Our bones are dried up,___ and our hope is lost.'

B. *mf*
 'Our bones are dried up,___ and our hope is lost.'

59 *ff*

S. "Be hold, I will cause you to come up out of your_

A. "Be hold, I will cause you to come up out of your

T. "Be hold, I will cause you to come up out of your_

B. "Be hold, I will cause you to come up out of your

65 *mf* *mp* *f* *mp*

S. graves, my peo - ple; and I will bring you in -

A. graves, my peo - ple; and I will bring you in -

T. graves, my peo - ple; and I will bring you in -

B. graves, my peo - ple; and I will bring you in -

72

S. *mf* *pp* *p* *pp*
 to the land of Is - ra - el, I will put my spi - rit

A. *mf* *pp* *p* *pp*
 to the land of Is - ra - el, I will put my spi - rit

T. *mf* *pp* *p* *pp*
 to the land of Is - ra - el, I will put my spi - rit

B. *mf* *pp* *p* *pp*
 to the land of Is - ra - el, I will put my spi - rit

80

S. in you, — and you will live."

A. in you, — and you will live."

T. in you, — and you will live."

B. in you, — and you will live."

Org. (opt.) *p*