



PETER RELPH

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*Set Me As A  
Seal*

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For Choir SATB

Dedicated to Emma and David  
**Set Me As A Seal**  
 Composed for the marriage of David Moger and Emma Hall  
 and first performed in York Minster  
 Friday, 1st September 2017

PETER RELPH (1992)

Set me as a seal upon your heart,  
 as a seal upon your arm;  
 for love is as strong as death,  
 jealousy is as cruel as the grave.  
 Its flashes are flashes of fire,  
 a most vehement flame.  
 Many waters cannot quench love,  
 neither can the floods drown it.  
 If a man offered for love all the wealth of his house,  
 it would be utterly scorned.

attr. Pope Gregory the Great (540-604 AD)

**Declamando** ♩ = 120

SOPRANO  
 ALTO  
 TENOR  
 BASS

Set me as a seal u - pon your heart, as a seal u -  
 Set me as a seal u - pon your heart, as a seal u -  
 as a seal u -  
 as a seal u -

\*Bars such as this should be thought of as one continuous 'chant' line.  
 The numbers above these bars indicate the number of quarter notes  
 per measure until the next number appears

4

pon your arm; heart,  
 pon your arm; Set me as a seal u - pon your heart,  
 pon your arm; Set me as a seal u - pon your heart,  
 pon your arm; heart,

\*The circle at the end of the *dim.* indicates a *niente* or "to nothing"

8

*mp*

as a seal u - pon your arm;

*mp*

as a seal u - pon your arm;

*mp*

as a seal u - pon your arm;

*mp*

as a seal u - pon your arm;

*tutti p*

for

*tutti p*

for

*tutti p*

for

**B**

12

*tutti p senza cresc.*

13

love is as strong as death, jea - lou - sy is cruel as the grave.

*senza cresc.*

love is as strong as death, jea - lou - sy is cruel as the grave.

*senza cresc.*

love is as strong as death, jea - lou - sy is cruel as the grave.

*senza cresc.*

love is as strong as death, jea - lou - sy is cruel as the grave.

15

17

Its fla - shes are fla - shes of fire, a most ve - he - ment flame.

Its fla - shes are fla - shes of fire, a most ve - he - ment flame.

Its fla - shes are fla - shes of fire, a most ve - he - ment flame.

Its fla - shes are fla - shes of fire, a most ve - he - ment flame.

C

17 *p* 20 *mp*

Set me as a seal u - pon your heart, as a seal u - pon your

*p* *mp*

Set me as a seal u - pon your heart, as a seal u - pon your.

*p* *mp*

as a seal u - pon your

*p* *mp*

as a seal u - pon your

D

21 *p* 20 *p*

arm; heart,

arm; Set me as a seal u - pon your heart,

arm; Set me as a seal u - pon your heart,

arm; Set me as a seal u - pon your heart,

24 *mf*

as a seal u - pon your arm;

as a seal u - pon your arm;

as a seal u - pon your arm;

as a seal u - pon your arm;

**E****mp***senza cresc.*

Ma - ny wa - ters ca - nnot quench love, nei - ther can the floods drown it.

Ma - ny wa - ters ca - nnot quench love, nei - ther can the floods drown it.

Ma - ny wa - ters ca - nnot quench love, nei - ther can the floods drown it.

Ma - ny wa - ters ca - nnot quench love, nei - ther can the floods drown it.

If a man o - ffer'd for love all his wealth, it would be u - tter - ly scorn'd.

If a man o - ffer'd for love all his wealth, it would be u - tter - ly scorn'd.

If a man o - ffer'd for love all his wealth, it would be u - tter - ly scorn'd.

If a man o - ffer'd for love all his wealth, it would be u - tter - ly scorn'd.

**F**

stagger breathing

**pp** *cresc. poco a poco***p** *cresc. poco a poco***mp** *cresc. poco a poco*

Set me as a seal u - pon your heart, as a

Set me as a seal u - pon your heart, as a

Set me as a seal u - pon your heart, as a

Set me as a seal u - pon your heart, as a

G

39 *mf cresc. poco a poco* *f* *cresc. poco a poco* 14

seal u - pon your arm; — for love is as strong as death,

*mf* *f* *cresc. poco a poco* *tutti*

seal u - pon your arm; — for love is as strong as death,

*mf* *f* *cresc. poco a poco* *tutti*

seal u - pon your arm; — for love is as strong as death,

*mf* *f* *cresc. poco a poco* *tutti*

seal u - pon your arm; — for love is as strong as death,

43 *ff* *molto* *fff*

jea-lou-sy is cruel as the grave. Its fla - shes are fla-shes of fire, a most ve -

*ff* *molto* *fff*

jea-lou-sy is cruel as the grave. Its fla - shes are fla-shes of fire, a most ve -

*ff* *molto* *fff*

jea-lou-sy is cruel as the grave. Its fla - shes are fla-shes of fire, a most ve -

*ff* *molto* *fff*

jea-lou-sy is cruel as the grave. Its fla - shes are fla-shes of fire, a most ve -

H

47 **16**

- he - ment flame.

- he - ment Set me as a seal u - pon your heart,

- he - ment Set me as a seal u - pon your heart,

- he - ment flame.

50 *rall.*

as a seal u - pon your heart.

as a seal u - pon your heart.

as a seal u - pon your heart.

as a seal u - pon your heart.