

THULA KLIZEO

Words and Music by

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Arranged by

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Notes for the Director

Pronunciation and Translation

Zulu: *Thu-la kli- se- o, na- la pa-se ka-ya. Hey ka-ya, na- la pa- se ka-ya.*

Pronounce: Too-lah Klih-zee-o, nah-lah pah-say kī- yah. Hay kī- yah, nah-lah pah-say kī- yah.

Translation: Be still my heart. Even here I am at home.

- The ‘k’ should be pronounced hard on ‘klizeo’ but mixed more with a ‘g’ sound on ‘kaya.’
- The “oo” vowel sound in ‘Thula’ needs to be pronounced with the lips very far forward to obtain an exaggerated “ooo” vowel sound.
- The ‘y’ in ‘kaya’ should be uttered with very little ‘y’ sound.

The song is mostly unison, and any time there is only one voice part, all children should sing it together, as well as doing all of the percussive sounds. Notes that are to be percussive or spoken use X-noteheads and the actions or spoken words are in italics. The percussive pattern that first appears in bar 25 requires stomping each foot and then clapping; this is repeated, ending with slapping the thighs with both hands. When I indicate “slap” in subsequent patterns, this still means to slap their thighs not their fellow singers).

Since the children will need their hands free for the percussive sounds in this song, they should sing the song by heart. My inexperienced singers had no difficulty with this, especially when I did the percussive sounds with them and used cues to show them what was coming next:

- Held up my left hand in a clapping position to prepare for an upcoming clap.
- Pointed down to my raised left knee for the beginning of the stomp-stomp-clap pattern.
- Pointed to my mouth for the spoken sections.
- Put my finger to my lips in a hushing position for “Sh.”

I hope you and your choir have as much fun with this song as we did!

Leanne Macdonnell