# THE BLACK KNIGHT (DER SCHWARZE RITTER); CANTATA FOR CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA

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The Black Knight (Der Schwarze Ritter); Cantata for Chorus and Orchestra by Uhland & Edward Elgar

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## UHLAND & EDWARD ELGAR

# THE BLACK KNIGHT (DER SCHWARZE RITTER); CANTATA FOR CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA

Trieste

NOVELLO'S ORIGINAL OCTAVO EDITION.

TO MY FRIEND, HUGH BLAIR, M.A., Mus. Bac., Cantab.

A ....

THE BLACK KNIGHT

#### (DER SCHWARZE RITTER)

CANTATA FOR CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA

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THE POEM BY

### UHLAND

(TRANSLATED BY LONGFELLOW)

THE MUSIC COMPOSED BY

EDWARD ELGAR.

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### THE BLACK KNIGHT.

#### FROM THE GERMAN OF UHLAND.

#### SCENE L

"Twas Pentecost, the Feast of Gladness, When woods and fields put off all sadness, Thus began the King and spake; "So from the halls Of ancient Hofburg's walls, A luxuriant Spring shall break."

Drums and trumpets echo loudly, Wave the crimson banners proudly, From balcony the King looked on; In the play of spears, Fell all the cavaliers, Before the monarch's stalwars son.

#### SCENE II.

 (a) To the barrier of the fight Rode at last a sable Knight.
 "Sir Knight! your name and soutcheon, say!"
 "Should I speak it here,

Ye would stand aghast with fear; I am a Prince of mighty sway!"

(b) When he rode into the lists, The arch of heaven grew black with mists, And the castle 'gan to rock.
At the first blow, Fell the youth from saddle-bow, Hardly rises from the shock.

#### SCENE III.

(c) Pipe and viol call the dances, Torch-light through the high hall glances; Waves a mighty shadow in; With manner bland Doth ask the maiden's hand,
(b) Doth with her the dance begin; Danced in sable iron sark, Danced a measure weird and dark, Coldly elasped her limbs around. From breast and hair Down fall from her the fair Flowerets, faded, to the ground.

#### SCENE IV.

(a) To the sumptuous banquet came Every Knight and every Dame.

(b) 'Twixt son and daughter all distraught, With mournful mind The ancient King reclined, Gazed at them in silent thought.

Pale the children both did look, But the guest a beaker took ; "Golden wine will make you whole !" The children drank, Gave many a courteous thank ; " Oh, that draught was very cool !

 (c) Each the father's breast embraces, Son and daughter ; and their faces Colourless grow utterly.
 Whichever way
 Icoke the fear-struck father grey, He beholds his children die.

 (d) "Woe! the blessed children both Takest thou in the joy of youth; Take me, too, the joyless father !" Spake the grim Guest, From his hollow, cavernous breast, " Roses in the spring I gather !"

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