

**ENGEDI; OR, DAVID IN THE  
WILDERNESS, (MOUNT OF  
OLIVES): A SACRED  
DRAMA**

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Engedi; Or, David in the Wilderness, (Mount of Olives): a Sacred Drama by Louis van Beethoven & Henry Hudson & Vincent Novello

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**LOUIS VAN BEETHOVEN & HENRY HUDSON & VINCENT NOVELLO**

**ENGEDI; OR, DAVID IN THE  
WILDERNESS, (MOUNT OF  
OLIVES): A  
SACRED DRAMA**



**E N G E D I ;**

*Christus,*  
OR, *Op 75*

**DAVID IN THE WILDERNESS,**

[MOUNT OF OLIVES.]

**A Sacred Drama.**

THE MUSIC BY

**LOUIS VAN BEETHOVEN.**

THE WORDS PRINCIPALLY SELECTED FROM SCRIPTURE,

BY

**HENRY HUDSON, M. D.**

THE ACCOMPANIMENT NEWLY ARRANGED BY

**VINCENT NOVELLO.**

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## P R E F A C E .

THE author of the words of the sacred Drama, now submitted to the public, under the title of "Engedi," had long regretted that the music of Beethoven's noble oratorio "Mount of Olives," appeared to be for ever excluded (as a whole) from public performance, by the objectionable nature of the German libretto; and, having seen that every attempt hitherto made to *modify* the original subject had failed to produce the desired effect, he has been induced by the consideration of the analogies of the sacred history, to make the following attempt to adapt the musical ideas of the immortal Beethoven to the facts of Saul's persecution of David.

The present version is founded on the following extracts from the first Book of Samuel :

### CHAPTER XXIII.

"David knew that Saul secretly practised mischief against him." (verse 9.) \* \* \*

"Then David and his men (about six hundred) arose and departed out of Kellah, and went whithersoever they could go." (verse 13.) \* \* \*

"And David saw that Saul was come out to seek his life." (verse 15.) \* \* \*

"And David went up, \* \* and dwelt in strongholds at Engedi." (verse 29.)

### CHAPTER XXIV.

"Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats, and he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where was a cave, and Saul went in to cover his feet—and David and his men remained in the sides of the cave. And the men of David said unto him, behold the day of which the Lord said unto thee, behold I will deliver thine enemy into thine hand, that thou mayest do unto him, as it shall seem good unto thee." (verses 2, 3, and 4.) \* \* \*

"And he said unto his men, the Lord forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the Lord's anointed, to stretch forth mine hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the Lord. So David stayed his servants with those words, and suffered them not to rise against Saul. But Saul rose up out of the cave and went on his way." (verses 6 and 7.)

The author's excuse for making "Abishai" the individual to urge David to slay Saul, will be found in the 26th Chapter of Samuel, verses 8, 9 and 10.

"Then said Abishai to David, God hath delivered thine enemy into thine hand this day, now therefore let me smite him, I pray thee, with the spear even to the earth at once, and I will not smite him the second time. And David said to Abishai, destroy him not, for who can stretch forth his hand against the Lord's anointed and be guiltless? David said furthermore, as the Lord liveth the Lord shall smite him." \* \* \*

So far as was possible, the author has availed himself of Scripture language; and David's words have been taken (almost wholly) from the Psalms generally attributed to him, though of course not in regular order, as it has invariably throughout been the writer's first object to select words adapting themselves to the original music in its continually varying expression, which could not have been done had he taken any one Psalm as his text. How far the author has succeeded he must leave it to others to determine; but, if the result should be the production at our festivals or elsewhere of this magnificent and highly dramatic work of Beethoven, he will feel amply rewarded for the trouble it has given him to endeavor to do it justice.

BILLINGS, TAYLOR & AHEMAN,  
Musical Stereotypers, No. 5 Park Place, N. Y.



# ENGEDI;

OR,

## DAVID IN THE WILDERNESS.

RECIT.—DAVID.

**JEHOVAH!** hear, oh hear me. Thou art my hope.  
Oh Lord deliver me; stretch forth thy hand to help  
me in my trouble. I bless thy holy name; Thou art  
my refuge and my shield; in thee alone I trust. How  
awful is thy wrath, oh! God of Israel! Arise, oh Lord,  
and let thine enemies be scattered and flee before thee.  
Oh Father! hear and grant thy servant's prayer, who  
bends before thy throne in sorrow, for my foes have  
sought my life. Remember our reproach, wherewith  
thine enemies have reproached thy servants.—Arise!  
Oh God of hosts, forsake me not! Behold how fear-  
fully the pains of death oppress and wound my soul.  
My heart is faint, my Father! Behold my heart is  
faint. Have mercy, Lord!

AIR.

Oh, my heart is sore within me,  
And my spirit faints away;  
Terrors seize me, and in darkness  
I am dwelling night and day.

Like the shadow that declineth,  
Are my days with constant fears;  
I am weary with my groaning,  
And my eyes are dim with tears.

Father! Lord! in pain and sorrow,  
Lo! thy servant prays to thee;  
(For thy power is unbounded)  
Lord, arise, deliver me.

RECIT.—PROPHETESS.

What sorrow pierceth the righteous David's heart?  
dejected on the earth he lies, he fears the Lord forsakes  
him, and suffers the pains of hell.—How blest the man  
who trusts in God! and walketh in the paths of wisdom.  
The Lord exalteth him he loves:—To God belongeth  
vengeance. The haughty shall be humbled.

AIR AND CHORUS.

Praise ye Jehovah's goodness,  
And bless his holy name;  
He hears the meek and lowly,  
The proud he brings to shame,  
Bless and praise his holy name.

Oh praise him all ye nations,  
How blest, how blest are they  
Who trust in God and love him,  
And all his laws obey.

But woe to those who hate him,  
Or say, "He hath forgot:"  
The curse of God is on them,  
Destruction is their lot.

RECIT.—DAVID.

Prophetic voices now proclaim the goodness of our  
heavenly Father. The fear of death no more afflicts  
my soul.

RECIT.—PROPHETESS.

Thus saith Jehovah! until the fate of Saul, (who  
seeketh to destroy thee) is accomplished, 'mid rocks  
and caves and forests thou must dwell a wanderer and  
stranger to thy brethren.

DUET.—DAVID AND PROPHETESS.

DAVID.

I love the Lord because he heard me;  
My tongue shall ever sing his praise;  
Remember Lord thy tender mercies,  
And teach thy servant all thy ways.

PROPHETESS.

The Lord beholdeth his anointed,  
Regards his woes and hears his prayers:  
The terrors of his foes surround him,  
But God will save him from their snares.

## DUTH.

How great the pain, the grief, and anguish,  
Wherewith Jehovah tries { him } still;  
But greater far his loving kindness,  
To those who keep his holy will.

## RECUR.—DAVID.

Then welcome death, if such thy pleasure, heavenly  
Father!—Oh ye, who in your quiet graves are sleeping;  
all ye his saints who have obeyed his voice! how  
blest are ye! The Lord shall be your portion.

DISTANT CHORUS OF THE SOLDIERS OF SAUL,  
GRADUALLY COMING NEARER.

We surely here shall find him,  
And fast in chains we'll bind him;  
To hide from us is vain,  
We have sworn he shall be slain.

## RECUR.—DAVID.

My deadly enemies compass me about on every side.  
Jehovah! Thou knowest all my thoughts; be near to  
help me and save thy servant. Let thy wrath over-  
take them: let their way be dark. Destroy thou all  
my foes. Lord! hear thy servant: save, oh save me  
from their fury.

## CHORUS.—SOLDIERS OF SAUL.

Where is he?—the deceiver, whom traitors dare to  
call the future king of Israel! we'll seize and drag him  
hence.

## CHORUS.—FOLLOWERS OF DAVID.

These soldiers come to find us,  
And fast in chains to bind us,  
Behold our foes surround us,  
Ah! whither can we fly?

DOUBLE CHORUS.—SOLDIERS OF SAUL, "Where is he?"  
&c. AND FOLLOWERS OF DAVID.

Have mercy Lord! our deadly foes are nigh,  
Have mercy! Ah, whither can we fly.

## RECUR.—ABISHAI.

Vengeance is ours! behold thy dreaded foe (who  
seeks thy life) sleeps in this cave, oh David! this hand  
shall slay the tyrant.

## RECUR.—DAVID.

Oh let thy sword within its scabbard rest. We dare  
not smite him; for the Lord forbids us to raise our  
hand against the Lord's anointed. As the Lord  
Jehovah liveth, the Lord our God himself shall smite  
him.

## TERRANTO.—ABISHAI, PROPHETESS &amp; DAVID.

## ABISHAI.

The hour of vengeance cometh,  
'Tis thus by heav'n decreed;  
Oh let us smite the tyrant;  
This hand shall do the deed.  
The tyrant king shall bleed.

## DAVID.

Against the Lord's anointed,  
Our hands we must not raise;  
Our God shall judge between us,  
He knoweth all our ways.

## PROPHETESS.

The Lord our God is righteous,  
And he will hear your cry;  
To those who serve and love him,  
The Lord is ever nigh.

## Trio.

How blest are those who love Him,  
And keep His holy word,  
Forgiving those who hate them;  
For thus they please the Lord.

## CHORUS.—SOLDIERS OF SAUL.

Haste, haste, arise and find the traitor,  
Let us have no more delay:  
Haste to seize the vile deceiver:  
Death awaits him; hence, away!

## FOLLOWERS OF DAVID.

Ah! how awful is their fury!  
Thou wilt lead them, Lord, astray:  
They would cast us into darkness,  
And our master they would slay.

## SOLDIERS.

Haste, arise, &c.

## DAVID.

Oh, the Lord our God is gracious,  
Let us praise him night and day;  
For our God will save his servants,  
And our fears shall pass away.

## SOLDIERS.—FOLLOWERS.

Haste, arise! &c.

Ah! how awful is their fury, &c.

## RECUR.—DAVID.

They are gone! our fears are over! Let Jehovah's  
name be praised.

## CHORUS.

Hallelujah! power and glory to the Lord Jehovah's  
name. Praise our God, all ye who love the Lord,  
in holy songs of joy; sing Jehovah's power and glory.



No. 1.

INTRODUCTION.

ORGAN  
or  
PIANOFORTE.

GRAVE. ADAGIO.

*p* *pp*

*fp* *f*

*pp* *p* *mf* *pp*

*ff* *f*

*p* *cresc.* *f*

*p* *cresc.* *f*

This page of musical notation consists of seven systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The music is written in a key with three flats and a 3/4 time signature. The notation includes various rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth and thirty-second notes, and rests. Performance markings such as *ff*, *pp*, *DECISA*, and *GRU* are placed throughout the score. The first system begins with a *ff* dynamic. The second system features a *DECISA* marking. The third system includes *pp* and *fp* markings. The fourth system has a *GRU* marking. The fifth system includes a *pp* marking. The sixth system includes a *GRU* marking. The seventh system includes *DECISA* and *pp* markings. The notation is dense and detailed, typical of a classical piano score.

## No. 2.

## RECITATIVE.—“JEHOVAH! HEAR!”

DAVID.

Je-ho-vah! hear! O hear me, Thou art my hope, O Lord, deliv-er me!

ALLEGRO.

Stretch forth thy hand to help me in my trouble. I bless thy ho-ly

*pp*

name: Thou art my re-fuge and my shield; In thee a-lone I trust.

ALLEGRO.

*f*

How aw-ful is thy wrath, O God of Is-ra-el! A-rise, O Lord! and let thine

ALLEGRO.