

Near to Thee

Effie Bunner Hale

Andy Robison

1. Lord, I would be ev - er near Thee, Help me not Thy path to leave;
2. I've no friend on earth just like Thee, Whom to car - ry all my woes.
3. Oh, dear sin - ner, won't you have Him To be yours a - long life's way?

The first system of music consists of a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The vocal line begins with a quarter rest, followed by a series of quarter and eighth notes. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line with chords and moving lines in the right hand.

For to wan - der from Thy pres - ence, Would the Ho - ly Spir - it grieve.
May I ev - er walk be - side Thee, Till this earth - ly life shall close.
Just be - lieve, re - pent, con - fess Him, and be born a - new this day.

The second system continues the musical notation with the same vocal and piano parts. The lyrics are aligned with the vocal line, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across two notes.

Near to Thee, Near to Thee, Sav - ior, may I ev - er be.
ev er -

The third system features the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are repeated, with a long note on 'ev er -' in the vocal line that extends across the end of the system.

Near to Thee, Near to Thee, Sav - ior, may I ev - er be.

The fourth system concludes the piece with the same musical notation and lyrics as the previous system. The piano accompaniment ends with a final chord and a fermata over the final note.

Effie Bunner Hale was the daughter of the gospel preacher, A.A. Bunner. She composed these lyrics in 1962 at age 80.

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