

The lonely crow

Spanish folk song from the American Southwest
Transcribed, translated and arranged by Wilbur Skeels
for a mixed choir of three equal women's voices and baritone.

Musical score for the first system of "The lonely crow". It features four staves: Sop1, Sop2/Alt1, Alt2, and Bar. The key signature is two sharps (D major), and the time signature is 6/8. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 88. The first two staves (Sop1 and Sop2/Alt1) have lyrics: "Ay, ay, ay, ay, ay! Ay, ay, ay, ay! El cuer-vo_en". The Alt2 staff has the lyric "El cuer-vo_en". The Bar. staff is empty. Dynamics include *f* and *mf*. There are hairpins and a fermata over the final note of the first two staves.

Musical score for the second system of "The lonely crow". It features four staves: Sop1, Sop2/Alt1, Alt2, and Bar. The key signature is two sharps (D major), and the time signature is 6/8. The first three staves have lyrics: "u - na la - de - ra llo - ra - ba su so - le - dad. A crow on the hill-side la -". The Bar. staff is empty. The system starts with a measure rest and a measure rest, followed by a 3/8 time signature change, and then a 6/8 time signature change.

This cautionary tale about the benefits of getting an education was sung by my father-in-law to his children and grandchildren in the 1930's and '40s in El Paso, Texas. The melody and Spanish text is as my sister-in-law, Celia Reyes, remembers it. There may be other versions. Note: "moza" can mean either maid, or mistress (or both). W.S.

9

men-ted his lone - li - ness. Por-que con tan - ta plu - ma no se pu - do man - ten-

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men-ted his lone - li - ness. Por-que con tan - ta plu - ma no se pu - do man - ten-

Por-que con tan - ta plu - ma no se pu - do man - ten-

14

er. Y_el es - cri - ba-no con u - na man-tu-vo mo-za_y mu-jer! For__

er. Y_el es - cri - ba-no con u - na man-tu-vo mo-za_y mu-jer! For__

er. Y_el es - cri - ba-no con u - na man-tu-vo mo-za_y mu-jer! For

er. Y_el es - cri - ba-no con u - na man-tu-vo mo-za_y mu-jer! For

19

all his feath - ered quills could not sup - port his wretch - ed life, while the

all his feath - ered quills could not sup - port his wretch - ed life, while the

all his feath - ered quills could not sup - port his wretch - ed life, while the

all his feath - ered quills could not sup - port his wretch - ed life, while the

23

scribe with___ on - ly one quill, kept both a maid and a wife!

scribe with___ on - ly one quill, maid and a

scribe with___ on - ly one quill, maid and a

26

Ay, ay, ay! Kraaak!___

Ay, ay, ay! Kraaak!___

wife! Ay, ay, ay! Kraaak!___ Ay! Ay! Ay, ay ay!

wife! Ay, ay, ay! Kraaak!___ Ay! Ay! Ay, ay, ay!

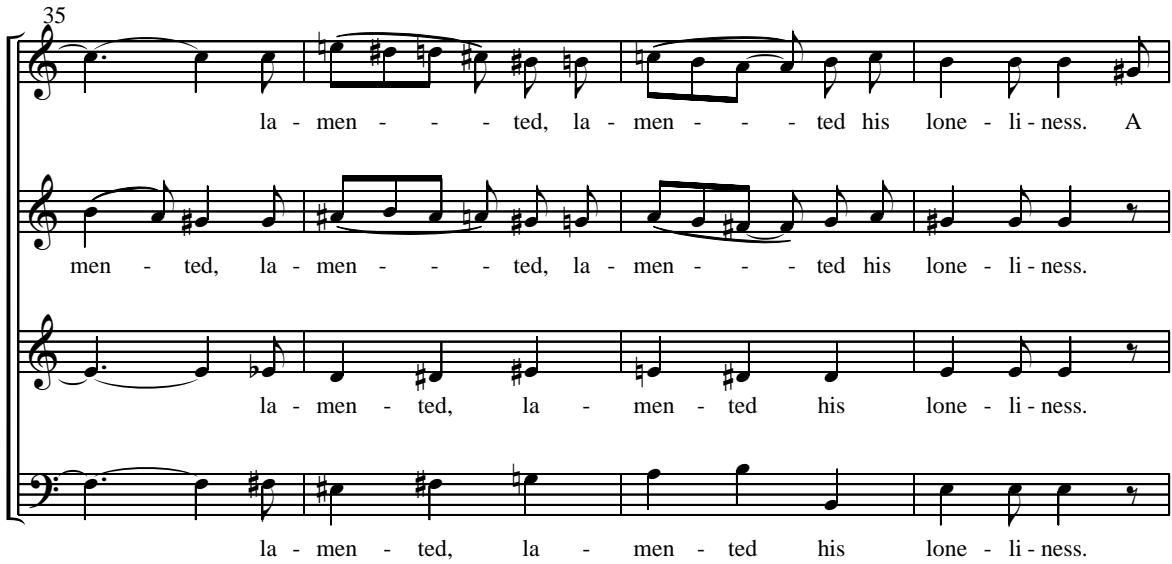
30

A crow, la - men - ted,___

Ay, ay, ay, ay! A crow, la - men - ted,___

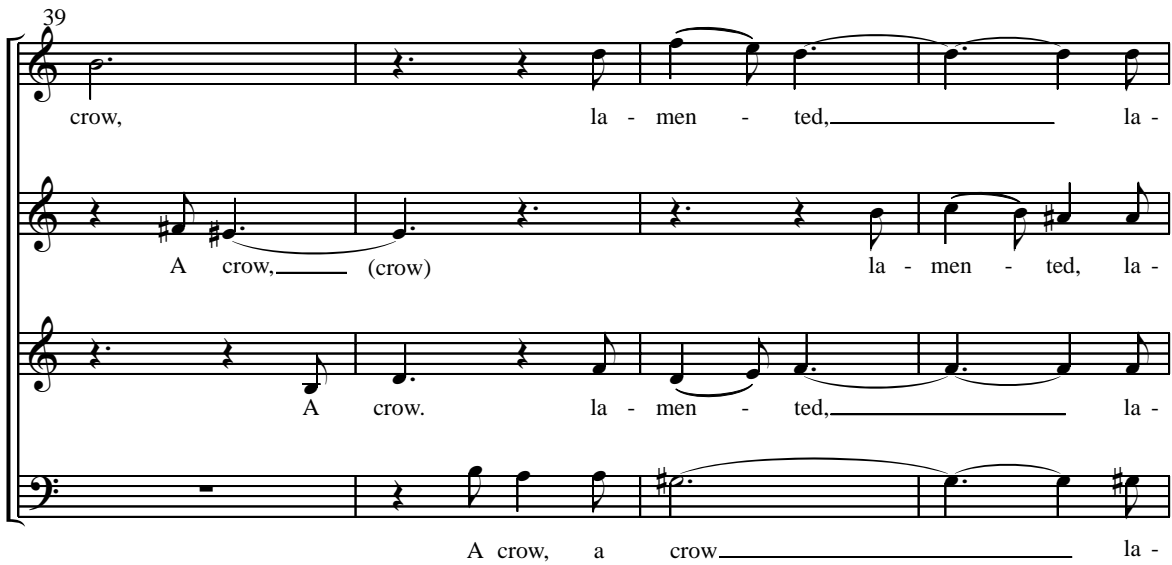
Ay, ay, ay, ay! A crow, a crow

35



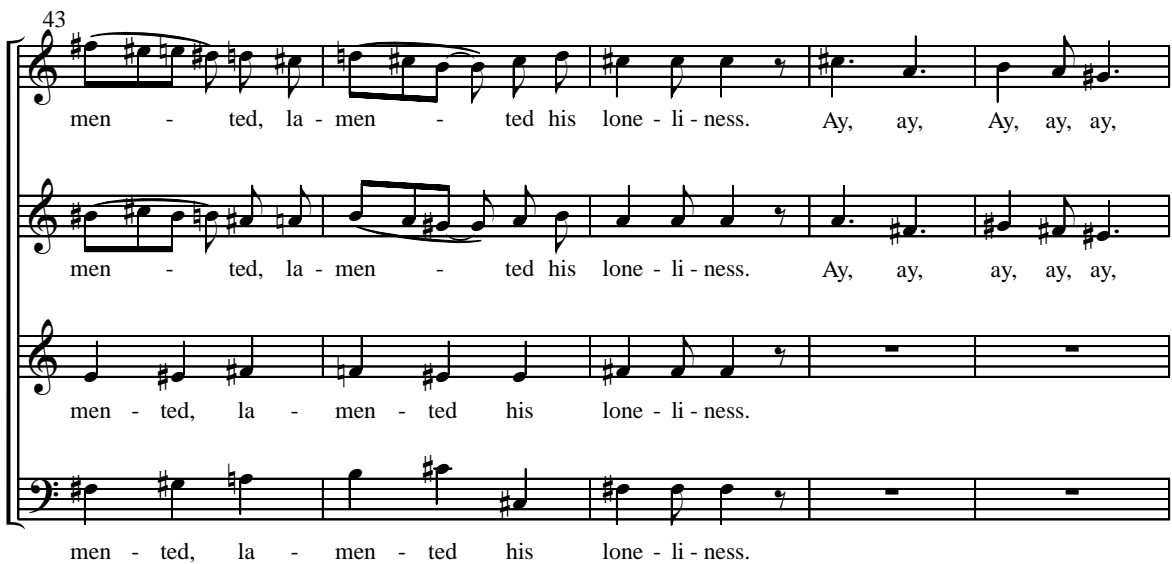
la - men - - - ted, la - men - - - ted his lone - li - ness. A
 men - ted, la - men - - - ted, la - men - - - ted his lone - li - ness.
 la - men - ted, la - men - ted his lone - li - ness.
 la - men - ted, la - men - ted his lone - li - ness.

39



crow, la - men - ted, la -
 A crow, (crow) la - men - ted, la -
 A crow. la - men - ted, la -
 A crow, a crow, la -

43



men - ted, la - men - ted his lone - li - ness. Ay, ay, Ay, ay, ay,
 men - ted, la - men - ted his lone - li - ness. Ay, ay, ay, ay, ay,
 men - ted, la - men - ted his lone - li - ness.
 men - ted, la - men - ted his lone - li - ness.

48 *Agitated*

p

ay, ay, ay, ay! Lots of feath - ers and quills, I've got

p

ay, ay, ay, ay! Lots of feath - ers and quills, I've got

p

With but one quill see what

53 *mp*

feath - ers and quills, lots of feath - ers and quills, I've got feath - ers and quills,

mp

feath - ers and quills, lots of feath - ers and quills, I've got feath - ers and quills,

mp

he has, with but one quill see what he has,

58 *mf*

lots of feath - ers and quills, I've got feath - ers and quills, lots of

mf

lots of feath - ers and quills, I've got feath - ers and quills, lots of

mf

with but one quill see what he has, with but

f

No _____ maid, no _____ wife, no _____

I
N
C
O
M
P
L
E
T
E

63 *ff*

feath - ers and quills, I've got feath - ers and quills, lots of

feath - ers and quills, I've got feath - ers and quills, lots of

one quill see what he has, with but

maid, no _____ wife, no _____

67 *rit. sf*

feath - ers and quills, I've got feath - ers and quills, Oh, oh,

feath - ers and quills, I've got feath - ers and quills, Oh, oh,

one quill see what he has, Oh, oh,

maid, no _____ wife, Oh, oh,

72 *pp* **Tempo I** *mf*

oh, oh! El cuer - vo en u - na la - de - ra llo - ra - ba su so - le -

oh, oh! El cuer - vo en u - na la - de - ra llo - ra - ba su so - le -

oh, oh! El cuer - vo en u - na la - de - ra llo - ra - ba su so - le -

oh, oh!

76

dad. A crow on the hill-side la - men-ted his lone - li - ness. Por-que

dad. A crow on the hill-side la - men-ted his lone - li - ness. Por-que

dad. A crow on the hill-side la - men-ted his lone - li - ness. Por-que

mf

Por-que

80

con tan - ta plu - ma no se pu - do man - ten - er. Y_el es - cri - ba - no con

con tan - ta plu - ma no se pu - do man - ten - er. Y_el es - cri - ba - no con

con tan - ta plu - ma no se pu - do man - ten - er. Y_el es - cri - ba - no con

con tan - ta plu - ma no se pu - do man - ten - er. Y_el es - cri - ba - no con

85

u - na man - tu - vo mo - za_y mu - jer! For all his feath - ered

u - na man - tu - vo mo - za_y mu - jer! For all his feath - ered

u - na man - tu - vo mo - za_y mu - jer! For all his feath - ered

u - na man - tu - vo mo - za_y mu - jer! For all his feath - ered

89

quills could not sup - port his wretch - ed life, while the scribe with___ on - ly

quills could not sup - port his wretch - ed life, while the scribe with___ on - ly

quills could not sup - port his wretch - ed life, while the scribe with___ on - ly

quills could not sup - port his wretch - ed life, while the scribe with___ on - ly

93

one quill, kept both a maid and a wife! Ay, ay, ay! Oh, *ff rit.*

one quill, kept both a maid and a wife! Ay, ay, ay! Oh, *ff rit.*

one quill, maid and a wife! Ay, ay, ay! Oh, *ff rit.*

one quill, maid and a wife! Ay, ay, ay! Oh, *ff rit.*