

*Commissioned by Deutscher Musikrat
for the National Youth Choir of Germany*

Nana Forte

LIBERTY

for double mixed choir
(SATB–SATB)

Lyrics by Paul Eluard

English translation by A. S. Kline



LIBERTY

by Paul Eluard

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Excerpts from the poem
(as used in the work):

On my notebooks from school
On my desk and the trees
On the sand on the snow
I write your name

On every page read
On all the white *sheets**
Stone blood paper or ash
I write your name

On the golden images
On the soldier's weapons
On the crowns of kings
I write your name

On the jungle the desert
The nests and the bushes
On the echo of childhood
I write your name

On the wonder of nights
On the white bread of days
On the seasons engaged
I write your name

On each breath of the dawn
On the ships on the sea
On the mountain demented
I write your name

On the foam of the clouds
On the sweat of the storm
On dark insipid rain
I write your name

On the glittering forms
On the bells of colour
On physical truth
I write your name

On the wakened paths
On the opened ways
On the scattered places
I write your name

On my ravaged refuges
On my fallen lighthouses
On the walls of my boredom
I write your name

On passionless absence
On naked solitude
On the marches of death
I write your name

On health that's regained
On danger that's past
On hope without memories
I write your name

By the power of the word
I regain my life
I was born to know you
And to name you

LIBERTY

* word changed to 'pages' by the composer

LIBERTY

Nana Forte
(2025)

cca. ♩ = 92

Soprano 1 *pp* *p*
m On my desk and the trees,

Alto 1 *pp* *p*
m On my desk and the trees,

Tenor 1 *pp* *p*
m On my desk and the trees,

Bass 1 *pp* *p*
m On my desk and the trees,

Soprano 2 *p* *pp*
On my note-books from school, m

Alto 2 *p* *pp*
On my note-books from school, m

Tenor 2 *p* *pp*
On my note-books from school, m

Bass 2 *p* *pp*
On my note-books from school, m

6 *rit.* *a tempo*
p *mp* *p* cca. ♩ = 92

S 1 *p* *mp* *p*
On the sand on the snow, I write your

A 1 *p* *mp* *p*
On the sand on the snow, I write your

T 1 *p* *mp* *p*
On the sand on the snow, I write your

B 1 *p* *mp* *p*
On the sand on the snow, I write your

S 2 *p* *mp* *mp* *p*
On the sand on the snow, I write your

A 2 *p* *mp* *mp* *p*
On the sand on the snow, I write your

T 2 *p* *mp* *mp* *p*
On the sand on the snow, I write your

B 2 *p* *mp* *mp* *p*
On the sand on the snow, I write your

11

S 1 name. On e - very page read

A 1 name. On e - very page read

T 1 name. On e - very page read

B 1 name, On e - very page read, your name,

S 2 name. On all the white pa - ges,

A 2 name. On all the white pa - ges,

T 2 name. On all the white pa - ges,

B 2 name, I write your name, On all the white pa - ges,

16

S 1 *mf* Stone, blood, pa - per or ash, *mp* I write your *mf* name, *mp*

A 1 *mf* Stone, blood, pa - per or ash, *mp* I write your *mf* name, *mp*

T 1 *mf* Stone, blood, pa - per or ash, *mp* I write your *mf* name, *mp*

B 1 *mf* Stone, blood, pa - per or ash, *mp* I write your *mf* name, *mp*

S 2 *mf* Stone blood pa - per or ash, *mp* I write, I write your *mp*

A 2 *mf* Stone blood pa - per or ash, *mp* I write, I write your *mp*

T 2 *mf* Stone blood pa - per or ash, *mp* I write, I write your *mp*

B 2 *mf* Stone blood pa - per or ash, *mp* I write, I write your *mp*

21

S 1 name. On the gol-den i - ma-ges, On the crowns of the kings,

A 1 name. On the gol-den i - ma-ges, On the crowns of the kings,

T 1 name. On the gol-den i - ma-ges, On the crowns of the kings,

B 1 name. On the gol-den i - ma-ges, On the crowns of the kings,

S 2 name. On the sol-dier's wea-pons, On the crowns of the

A 2 name. On the sol-dier's wea-pons, On the crowns of the

T 2 name. On the sol-dier's wea-pons, On the crowns of the

B 2 name. On the sol-dier's wea-pons, On the crowns of the

25

S 1 *mf* On the jun-gle the de - sert, the nests and the bu - shes, *p* On the e - cho of child-hood, *mp*

A 1 *mf* On the jun-gle the de - sert, the nests and the bu - shes, *p* On the e - cho of child-hood, *mp*

T 1 *mf* On the jun-gle the de - sert, the nests the bu - shes, *p* On the e - cho of child-hood, *mp*

B 1 *mf* On the jun-gle the de - sert, the nests the bu - shes, *p* On the e - cho of child-hood, *mp*

S 2 *mp* kings, *mf* jun-gle de - sert, the nests and the bu - shes, *p* On the e - cho of

A 2 *mp* kings, *mf* jun-gle de - sert, the nests and the bu - shes, *p* On the e - cho of

T 2 *mp* kings, *mf* jun-gle de - sert, the nests the bu - shes, *p* On the e - cho of

B 2 *mp* kings, *mf* jun-gle de - sert, the nests the bu - shes, *p* On the e - cho of

acc. -----

29

S 1 *mf* e - cho of child - hood, I *f* write, I *mp* write your name. *p*

A 1 *mf* e - cho of child - hood, I *f* write, I *mp* write your name. *p*

T 1 *mf* e - cho of child - hood, I *f* write, I *mp* write your name. *p*

B 1 *mf* e - cho of child - hood, I *f* write, I *mp* write your name. *p*

S 2 *mp* child - hood, *mf* e - cho of child - hood, I *f* write, I *mp* write your name. *p*

A 2 *mp* child - hood, *mf* e - cho of child - hood, I *f* write, I *mp* write your name. *p*

T 2 *mp* child - hood, *mf* e - cho of child - hood, I *f* write, I *mp* write your name. *p*

B 2 *mp* child - hood, *mf* e - cho of child - hood, I *f* write, I *mp* write your name. *p*

33 cca. ♩ = 56

S 1 *p* On the won-der of nights, *mp* On the white bread of

A 1 *p* On the won-der of nights, *mp* On the white bread of

T 1 *pp* I write your name, (m) I write your name, (m)

B 1 *pp* I write your name, (m) I write your name, (m)

S 2 *mp* On the white bread of days,

A 2 *mp* On the white bread of days,

T 2 *p* On the won-der of nights, On the white bread

B 2 *pp* I write your name, (m) I write your name, (m)

41

S 1 days, On the sea-sons en-gaged, I write your name.

A 1 days, On the sea-sons en-gaged, I write your name, write your name.

T 1 8 I write your name, On the sea-sons en-gaged, I write your name, write your name (m)

B 1 I write your name, On the sea-sons en-gaged, I write your name, write your name (m)

S 2 On the sea-sons en-gaged, I write your name, write your name.

A 2 On the sea-sons en-gaged, I write your name, write your name.

T 2 8 of days, On the sea-sons en-gaged, I write your name, write your name (m)

B 2 I write your name, On the sea-sons en-gaged, I write your name, write your name (m)

48

S 1 solo *p* I write your name, *mp* I write your name,

A 1 solo *p* I write your name, *mp* I write your name, tutti de -

T 1 8 On each breath of the dawn, On the ships on the sea, On the moun-tain de -

B 1 On each breath of the dawn, On the ships on the sea, On the moun-tain de -

S 2 solo *p* I write your name, *mp* I write your name, tutti

A 2 solo *p* I write your name, *mp* I write your name, de -

T 2 On each breath of the dawn, On the ships on the sea, On the moun-tain de -

B 2 On each breath of the dawn, On the ships on the sea, On the moun-tain de -

53 *tutti* *f* *mp* *mf*

S 1 I write your name. On the foam of the clouds, on the foam of the clouds, On the

A 1 *f* *mp* *mf*
men-ted I write your name. On the foam of the clouds, on the foam of the

T 1 *f* *mp* *mf*
men-ted I write your name. On the foam of the clouds, on the foam of the clouds, On the

B 1 *f* *mp* *mf*
men-ted I write your name. On the foam of the clouds, on the foam of the

S 2 *tutti* *f* *p*
I write your name. I write your name, I write your

A 2 *f* *p*
men-ted I write your name. I write your name, I write your

T 2 *f* *p*
men-ted I write your name. I write your name On the foam of the

B 2 *f* *p*
men-ted I write your name. I write your name On the foam of the

59 *mf* *mp* *p*

S 1 sweat of the storm, on the sweat of the storm, On dark in - spid rain, on dark in - spid rain, on

A 1 *mf* *mp*
clouds, On the sweat of the storm, on the sweat of the storm, On dark in - spid rain, on dark in - spid

T 1 *mf* *mp* *p*
sweat of the storm, on the sweat of the storm, On dark in - spid rain, on dark in - spid rain, on

B 1 *mf* *mp* *p*
clouds, On the sweat of the storm, on the sweat of the storm, On dark in - spid rain, on dark in - spid

S 2 *mp* *mf* *mp* *p*
name, I write your name, your name, On dark in - spid rain, on dark in - spid rain, on

A 2 *mp* *mf* *mp* *p*
name, I write your name on the sweat of the storm, On dark in - spid rain, on dark in - spid

T 2 *mp* *mf* *mp* *p*
clouds, I write your name, your name, On dark in - spid rain, on dark in - spid rain, on

B 2 *mp* *mf* *mp* *p*
clouds, I write your name on the sweat of the storm, On dark in - spid rain, on dark in - spid

63

S 1 dark in-spīd rain, on dark in-spīd rain, On the glit - te - ring forms, on the

A 1 rain, on dark in-spīd rain, I write your name, On the glit - te - ring forms, on the

T 1 dark in-spīd rain, on rain, on dark I write your name, On the glit - te - ring forms, on the

B 1 rain, on dark in-spīd rain, I write your name, I write your name, I

S 2 dark in-spīd rain, on dark in-spīd rain. On the glit - te - ring

A 2 rain, on dark in-spīd rain, I write your name, I write your name, On the glit - te - ring

T 2 dark in-spīd rain, on dark in-spīd rain, I write your name, I write your name, On the glit - te - ring

B 2 rain, on dark in-spīd rain, I write your name, I write your name, I write your

68

S 1 glit - te - ring forms, on the glit - te - ring forms, on the

A 1 glit - te - ring forms, I write your name, I write your name, on the glit - te - ring forms, on the

T 1 glit - te - ring forms, I write your name, I write your name, on the glit - te - ring forms, on the

B 1 write your name, I write your name, I write your name, I write your name, I

S 2 forms, on the glit - te - ring forms, on the glit - te - ring

A 2 forms, on the glit - te - ring forms, I write your name, I write your name, on the glit - te - ring

T 2 forms, on the glit - te - ring forms, I write your name, I write your name, on the glit - te - ring

B 2 name, I write your name, I write your name, I write your name, your name, I

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72 *mp* *mf* *mp* *p*

S 1 bells of co - lour, the bells of co - lour, On phy - si - cal truth, on phy - si - cal truth, I

A 1 bells of co - lour, the bells of co - lour, On phy - si - cal truth, on phy - si - cal truth, I

T 1 bells of co - lour, the bells of co - lour, On phy - si - cal truth, on phy - si - cal truth, I

B 1 write your name, I write your name, I write your name, I write your name, I

S 2 forms, on the bells of co - lour, the bells of co - lour, On phy - si - cal truth, I

A 2 forms, on the bells of co - lour, the bells of co - lour, On phy - si - cal truth, I

T 2 forms, on the bells of co - lour, the bells of co - lour, On phy - si - cal truth, I

B 2 write your name, I write your name, I write your name,

76 *mp* *p* *mf* *f* *accel.*

S 1 write your name, On the wa - kened paths, I write your name, On the scat - tered pla - ces, I write your name,

A 1 write your name, On the wa - kened paths, I write your name, On the scat - tered pla - ces, I write your name,

T 1 write your name, On the wa - kened paths, I write your name, On the scat - tered pla - ces, I write your name,

B 1 write your name, I write your name, I write your name, I write your name, I write your name,

S 2 write your name, I write your name, On the o - pened ways, I write your name, I write your name,

A 2 write your name, I write your name, On the o - pened ways, I write your name, I write your name,

T 2 write your name, I write your name, On the o - pened ways, I write your name, I write your name,

B 2 write your name, I write your name, I write your name, I write your name,

I write your name, I write your name, I write your name, I write your name,

81

S 1 *f* I write your name, *f* I write your name. *p* On my ra-vaged re - fu - ges,

A 1 *f* I write your name, *f* I write your name. *p* On my ra-vaged re - fu - ges,

T 1 *f* I write your name, *f* I write your name. *p* On my ra-vaged re - fu - ges,

B 1 *f* I write your name, *f* I write your name. *p* On my ra-vaged re - fu - ges,

S 2 *f* I write your name, *f* I write your name. *mp* I write your

A 2 *f* I write your name, *f* I write your name. *mp* I write your

T 2 *f* I write your name, *f* I write your name. *mp* I write your

B 2 *f* I write your name, *f* I write your name. *mp* I write your

87

S 1 *mp* On my fal - len light-hou - ses, *mp* On the walls of my bore-dom,

A 1 *mp* On my fal - len light-hou - ses, *mp* On the walls of my bore-dom,

T 1 *mp* On my fal - len light-hou - ses, *mp* On the walls of my bore-dom,

B 1 *mp* On my fal - len light-hou - ses, *mp* On the walls of my bore-dom,

S 2 *p* name, *mp* I write your name, *mp* I write your

A 2 *p* name, *mp* I write your name, *mp* I write your

T 2 *p* name, *mp* I write your name, *mp* I write your

B 2 *p* name, *mp* I write your name, *mp* I write your

91 *mf* *f*

S 1 On pas - sion - less ab - sence, On na - ked so - li - tude,

A 1 *mf* *f* On pas - sion - less ab - sence, On na - ked so - li - tude,

T 1 *mf* *f* On pas - sion - less ab - sence, On na - ked so - li - tude,

B 1 *mf* *f* On pas - sion - less ab - sence, On na - ked so - li - tude,

S 2 *mf* *f* *mp* *f* name, I write your name, your name, I write your

A 2 *mf* *f* *mp* *f* name, I write your name, your name, I write your

T 2 *mf* *f* *mp* *f* name, I write your name, your name, I write your

B 2 *mf* *f* *mp* *f* name, I write your name, your name, I write your

95 *mf* *mf* *mf* *f*

S 1 On the mar - ches of death, On health that's re - gained,

A 1 *mf* *mf* *mf* *f* On the mar - ches of death, On health that's re - gained,

T 1 *mf* *mf* *mf* *f* On the mar - ches of death, On health that's re - gained,

B 1 *mf* *mf* *mf* *f* On the mar - ches of death, On health that's re - gained,

S 2 *mp* *mf* *f* name, your name, I write your name, On health that's re -

A 2 *mp* *mf* *f* name, your name, I write your name, On health that's re -

T 2 *mp* *mf* *f* name, your name, I write your name, On health that's re -

B 2 *mp* *mf* *f* name, your name, I write your name, On health that's re -

99 *f* *mp* *mf* *p*

S 1 I write your name, On dan-ger that's past, _____

A 1 I write your name, On dan-ger that's past, _____

T 1 I write your name, On dan-ger that's past, _____ I write your _____

B 1 I write your name, On dan-ger that's past, _____

S 2 gained, On dan - ger that's past, _____ I write your _____

A 2 gained, On dan - ger that's past, _____ I write your _____

T 2 gained, On dan - ger that's past, _____ I write your _____

B 2 gained, On dan - ger that's past, _____ I write your _____

cca. ♩ = 60 rit. -----

105 *p* *mp* *p* *pp*

S 1 On hope with - out me - mo-ries I write your name, I write your name. _____

A 1 On hope with - out me - mo-ries I write your name, I write your name. _____

T 1 name, On hope with - out me - mo-ries I write your name, I write your name. _____

B 1 On hope with - out me - mo-ries I write your name, I write your name, your name. _____

S 2 name, I write, I write your name, your name _____

A 2 name, I write, I write your name, your name. _____

T 2 name, I write, I write your name, your name. _____

B 2 name, I write, I write your name, your name. _____

113

pp *p* *mf*

S 1 By the po - wer of the word I re - gain, I re - gain my

A 1 By the po - wer of the word I re - gain, I re - gain my

T 1 By the po - wer of the word, of the word I re - gain, I re - gain my

B 1 By, by the po - wer of the word I re - gain, I re - gain my

S 2 By the po - wer of the word I re - gain, I re - gain my

A 2 By the po - wer of the word I re - gain, I re - gain my

T 2 By the po - wer of the word, of the word I re - gain, I re - gain my

B 2 By the po - wer of the word, I re - gain,

120

mp *p* *mf*

S 1 life, I was born to know you and to name you,

A 1 life, I was born to know you and to name you,

T 1 life, I was born to know you and to name you

B 1 life, my life, was born to to know and to name you

S 2 life, I was born to know you and to name you,

A 2 life, I was born to know you and to name you,

T 2 life, I was born to know you and to name you

B 2 my life, I was born to know you and

rit. ----- cca. $\text{♩} = 56$

rit. -----

126 *mp* *mf* *f* *ff*

S 1 and to name you. Li - ber - ty, li - ber - ty, li - ber - ty.

A 1 and to name you. Li - ber - ty, li - ber - ty, li - ber - ty.

T 1 8 and to name you. Li - ber - ty, li - ber - ty, li - ber - ty.

B 1 and to name you. Li - ber - ty, li - ber - ty, li - ber - ty.

S 2 and to name you. Li - ber - ty, li - ber - ty, li - ber - ty.

A 2 and to name you. Li - ber - ty, li - ber - ty, li - ber - ty.

T 2 8 and to name you. Li - ber - ty, li - ber - ty, li - ber - ty.

B 2 Li - ber - ty, li - ber - ty, li - ber - ty.

durata cca. 6'