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# When You Cross Over Water

*by James Fast*



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James Fast's musical career has spanned some 25 years. His passion for music has provided an eclectic mix of musical experiences including solo performance, vocal instruction, choral conducting and music education in public school and college settings. His studies at Steinbach Bible College, University of Manitoba and the University of Toronto have opened many doors. James has performed as a vocalist in numerous engagements with orchestras and choral groups across Canada and the United States. His warm lyrical voice has been

appreciated in both oratorio and recital performance alike. James currently lives in Steinbach, Manitoba together with his family where he is the director of the music program at the Steinbach Christian High School.

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# When You Cross Over Water

Isaiah 43:2

James Fast

Adagio

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Piano introduction in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of two staves. The right hand plays chords and moving lines, while the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *p*, *cresc.*, *mp*, *cresc.*, and *mf*. A *pedal freely* instruction is at the bottom.

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Vocal and piano accompaniment for the first system. It includes staves for Soprano (S.), Alto (A.), Tenor (T.), Bass (B.), and Piano. The lyrics are: "When you cross o-ver wa-ter, when you cross o-ver...". The piano part continues with accompaniment. A rehearsal mark 'A' is present at the beginning of the system. Dynamics include *p*.

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S. *mf*  
wa - ter, o - ver wa - ter, will be with

A. *mf*  
wa - ter, o - ver wa - ter, o - ver wa - ter, I will be with

T. *mf*  
wa - ter, cross o - ver wa - ter, I will be with

B. *mf*  
wa - ter, cross o - ver wa - ter, I will be with

*mp*

*poco rit.* *a tempo*

11

S. *mp*  
you, And the ri - ver, the ri - ver,

A. *mp*  
you And the ri - ver, the ri - ver,

T. *mp*  
you And the ri - ver, the ri - ver,

B. *mp*  
you And the ri - ver, the ri - ver, will not ov - er -

*poco rit.*

*mf*

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*piu mosso*

14

S. *f* will not o - ver - flow, o - ver - flow, will not

A. *f* will ver - flow yet they will not o - ver flow, will not

T. *f* will not o - ver - flow you, will not

B. *f* flow you yet they will not they will not

*f* *piu mosso*

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*rit.*

17

S. *p* o - ver-flow you. When you're walk - ing

A. *p* o - ver - flow you. When you're walk - ing,

T. *p* o - ver - flow you. When you're walk - ing

B. *p* o - ver - flow you When you're walk - ing

*mf*

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*rit.*

**B** ♩ = 60

*mf*



20

rit. . . . . *f*

*molto rall.*

S. when you're walk-ing thru'the fire, you will not be

A. when you're walk-ing thru'the fire, you will not be

T. when you're walk-ing thru'the fire, you will not be

B. through re fire, you will not be

*f* *molto rall.*

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rit. . . . .

*p*

S. burned. Nei-ther will the flame, the flame kin-dle up-on you.

A. burned. Nei-ther will the flame, the flame kin-dle up-on you

T. burned. Nei-ther will the flame, the flame kin-dle up-on you

B. burned. Nei-ther will the flame, the flame kin-dle up-on you

*mf a tempo* *rit.* *rall.* *p*



26 **C** *a tempo*

*p*

S. When you cross o - ver wa - ter, when you cross o - ver

A. o - ver wa - ter, When you cross o - ver

T. *p* When you cross, when you cross, when you cross o - ver

B. *p* When you cross, when you cross, cross o - ver

**C** *a tempo*

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*mf* *mp* //

S. wa - ter, o - ver wa - ter, I will be with,

A. wa - ter, o - ver wa - ter, o - ver wa - ter, I will be with,

T. *mf* *mp* // wa - ter, cross o - ver wa - ter, I will be with,

B. *mf* *mp* // wa - ter, cross o - ver wa - ter, I will be with,

*mf* *mp* //

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32 *dolce*  
*p* *poco rit.*

S. I will be with you.

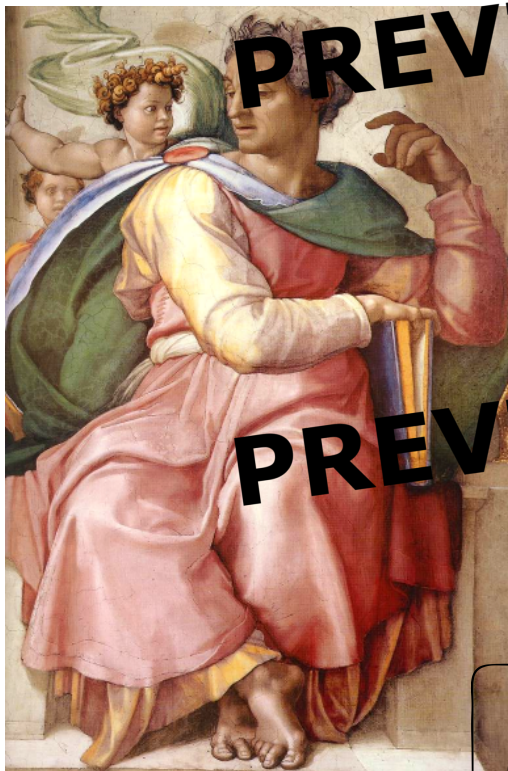
A. I will be with you.

T. I will be with you.

B. I will be with you.

*p* *poco rit.*

*pp*



Isaiah, by Michelangelo, (c. 1508–1512, Sistine Chapel ceiling, Vatican City)

Isaiah was a prophet who lived during the 8th-century BC - in the Kingdom of Judah.

The exact relationship between the Book of Isaiah and any such historical Isaiah remains the subject of ongoing scholarly discussion.

The first verse of the Book of Isaiah states that Isaiah prophesied during the reigns of Uzziah (or Azariah), Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, the kings of Judah (Isaiah 1:1). Uzziah's reign was 52 years in the middle of the 8th century BC, and Isaiah must have begun his ministry a few years before Uzziah's death, probably in the 740s BC. Isaiah lived until the fourteenth year of Hezekiah's reign (who died 698 BC), and may have been contemporary for some years with Manasseh. Thus Isaiah may have prophesied for as long as 64 years.

Gregory of Nyssa (c. 335–395) believed that the Prophet Isaiah "knew more perfectly than all others, the mystery of the religion of the Gospel". Jerome (c. 342–420) also lauds the Prophet Isaiah, saying, "He was more of an Evangelist than a Prophet, because he described all of the Mysteries of the Church of Christ so vividly that you would assume he was not prophesying about the future, but rather was composing a history of past events." The pertinence of this belief is certainly evident in Handel's famous oratorio - The Messiah.

Composer, James Fast, along with many other musicians, has been inspired by the words of Isaiah; words that are full of hope.

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