

The Circle

SATB, unaccompanied

Outwitted
 He drew a circle that shut me out—
 Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.
 But Love and I had the wit to win:
 We drew a circle that took him in!
 ~Edwin Markham

Text by Edwin Markham
 Music by Allan Robert Petker

Slowly, tempo rubato $\text{♩} = 60$

1 *p* 2 3 4 *mp*

He drew a cir - cle that_ shut me out: He drew a

p *mp*

He drew cir - cle shut out: He drew

p *mp*

He drew cir - cle shut out: He drew

p *mp*

He drew cir - cle shut out: He drew

for rehearsal only

Piano

5 cir - cle that_ shut me out: 6 7 8 9

cir - cle shut out: Cir - cle shut out:

cir - cle shut out: He drew a cir - cle that_ shut me out: —

cir - cle shut out: Cir - cle shut out:

cir - cle shut out: Cir - cle shut out:

10 *mf* 11 12 13 14

He drew a cir - cle that shut me out: He drew a cir - cle that com -

mf ,

He drew a cir - cle, he drew a cir - cle that

mf ,

He drew a cir - cle, he drew a cir - cle that

mf ,

He drew a cir - cle, he drew a cir - cle that

Firmly

15 16 17 18 *p* 19 20

plete - ly shut me out: shut me out:

shut me, shut me out: shut me out:

shut me, shut me out: shut me out:—

shut me, shut me out: shut me out: *f* Her - e - tic, —

21 *f* 22 23 *rit.* 24

Her - e - tic, reb - el, a thing to flout.

Her - e - tic, reb - el, a thing to flout.

Her - e - tic, reb - el, a thing to flout.

— reb - el, a thing to flout. *mf* But

rit.

Victorious
Tempo primo

25 *mf* 26 27 28 *f*

But Love and I had the wit to win: But Love and

But Love I had the wit to win: But Love,

But Love, Love_ and_ I had the wit to win: But Love,

Love, Love_ and_ I had the wit to win: But Love,

Tempo primo

29 30 31 *mp* 32 Lovingly

I had the wit to win: But Love

Love and I had the wit to win: But

Love and I had the wit to win: But

Love and I had the wit to win: But

33 34 35 36 37 *p*

_____ and I, but Love and I had the wit, the *p*

Love and I, but Love and I had the wit, the *p*

Love and I, but Love and I had the wit, the *p*

Love and I, but Love and I had the wit, the *p*

38 39 40 41 42 *p*

wit to win We drew a cir - cle, _____ *p*

wit to win: We drew a cir - cle, _____ *p*

wit to win: We drew a cir - cle, _____ *p*

wit to win: We drew a cir - cle, _____ *p*

43 44 45 46 *mp* 47

we drew a cir - cle, we drew a cir - cle that

we drew a cir - cle, we drew cir - cle that

we drew a cir - cle, we drew cir - cle that

we drew a cir - cle, we drew cir - cle that

48 50 *rit.* 51 52

took him in, that took him in.

took him in, that took him in.

took him in, that took him in.

took him in, that took him in.

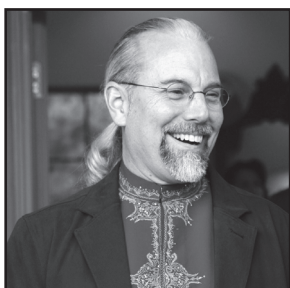
Dr. Alexander Lloyd Blake works as a conductor, composer/arranger, vocal contractor, singer, and music activist. Blake is the Founding Artistic Director of Tonicity, an award-winning choral ensemble focused on spreading a message of unity, peace, and social justice through a culturally diverse choral setting. He also serves as the Choir Director at Los Angeles County High School for the Arts (LACHSA) and as a Principal Associate Conductor of the National Children's Chorus.



As an arranger, Blake's "Wade in the Water" was a featured arrangement at the 2013 North Carolina Music Educators Association convention and is published with Santa Barbara Music Publishing. His choral arrangements are published by Alliance Music Publishing and Walton Music Publishing. Other musical activities include an opera conducting premiere at the 2019 Prototype Festival in New York City, preparing choirs for live performances with UCLA Center for the Art of Performance, and vocally arranging for a nationally televised performance during the 2022 MLB All-Star Game.

Recent film and TV credits include singing on the soundtrack of Jordan Peele's "Us," Disney's "Lion King," and Pixar's "Spies in Disguise," and leading sessions for Warner Bros "Space Jam: A New Legacy" and Netflix film "Escape from Spiderhead." Blake also worked as the choral contractor and vocal arranger for Andy Grammer's performance at the 2019 ARDys (Radio Disney Awards). Blake recently prepared singers for the 2020 Grammy Awards and performed at the 92nd Academy Awards.

Blake completed the Doctorate in Musical Arts degree at the University of Southern California in 2019, the Master of Music degree at the University of California Los Angeles in 2014, and the Bachelor of Arts degree (cum laude) in Vocal Performance at Wake Forest University in 2010.



Allan Robert Petker is a prolific composer and arranger with published works in numerous catalogs. He is the conductor of Consort Chorale (San Francisco Bay area), the Santa Clarita Master Chorale and the Los Cancioneros Master Chorale (Torrance, CA). He has been invited to guest conduct choirs in England, Korea, France and Portugal, and taken his own chorales on concert tours to Eastern and Western Europe, Russia and the Baltic region and South America. He has conducted at Carnegie Hall including the performance of his own 3-movement "Te Deum" for choir and orchestra.



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