

I BELIEVE THIS IS JESUS

for S.A.T.B. voices, a cappella,
and tenor or soprano solo

ANONYMOUS

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Harmonized by JOHN W. WORK (1901-1967)

Edited by Lawrence Bennett

The black American spiritual *I Believe This Is Jesus* is an intense outpouring of religious fervor, characteristic of the nineteenth-century revivalist movement. The simple harmonization given here is based on a version sung by the Fisk Jubilee Singers in the early twentieth century. To create a fuller texture, choruses may wish to experiment with a variety of doublings. For example, The Western Wind has found it particularly effective to double the soprano line of the refrain with several tenors and to double the tenor line with a few sopranos. The solo soprano or tenor (the leader) should feel free to ornament and vary the melodic line, and the chorus should be careful not to rush the frequent dotted rhythms. At the end of the spiritual, a repetition of the refrain with a broad ritard will produce an exhilarating conclusion.

Fervently (♩ = ca. 160)

Refrain

f freely

SOLO TENOR
OR SOPRANO

I be - lieve this is Je - sus; Come and see,
Come and see,

④

come and see, O I be - lieve this is Je - sus;
come and see;