

# 05 Better Than Before

Lyrics by Thomas K. Hunter  
Book by Thomas K. Hunter

Music Composed by Thomas K. Hunter  
and Steve Lehmann  
Arranged and Orchestrated by John Herberman

Act I Scene 5

CUE: CH. "Well not to this son."  
Vamp intro if necessary

**2**  $\text{♩} = 112$  CHURCHILL: **3** on cue (sings)

Voice (CH, FISH)  
We ar - rive in the chaos of a world in mid - flight. An en - ig - mat - ic

Piano

Bass  
*mp*

Drum Set/  
Snare Drum, Cymbal  
*pp*

Reed 1  
Flute/Piccolo  
Flute

Reed 2  
Oboe

Reed 3  
Bb Clarinet/  
Bass Clarinet  
B. Clar.  
*p*

Bb Trumpet 1/  
Eb Piccolo Trumpet  
Bb Trumpet  
*mp*

Bb Trumpet 2/  
Flugelhorn  
Trumpet  
*mp*

F. Horn

Bass Trombone  
*mp*

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Violin 1

Viola 1

Viola 2

Violoncello

Timpani,  
Tub. Bells  
TACET

Sus Cym, B.D.  
to sus cym

# Better Than Before

13

Voice  
(CH, FISH)

rid-dle, a chance or two in sight to make it bet-ter than be fore. All a - lone in the dark-ness we the

Pno.

Bass

Dr.

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

B. Tbn.

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

Vln. 1

Vla.

Vla.

Vc.

Timp., Ch.  
TACET

Perc.

# Better Than Before

Score for **Better Than Before**, page 3. The score includes the following parts:

- Voice (CH, FISH):** Lyrics: "worms muck a - bout, the chan-ces not-with - stand-ing this glow-worm will stand out to make it bet-ter than be".
- Pno.:** Piano accompaniment.
- Bass:** Bass line.
- Dr.:** Drum line.
- Fl.:** Flute.
- Ob.:** Oboe.
- Cl.:** Clarinet.
- Tpt. 1:** Trumpet 1.
- Tpt. 2:** Trumpet 2.
- Hn.:** Horn, with dynamics *mp* and *pp*.
- B. Tbn.:** Bass Trombone.
- Vln. 1:** Violin 1.
- Vla.:** Violin 2.
- Vc.:** Viola.
- Timp., Ch. TACET:** Timpani and Chimes, marked TACET.
- Perc.:** Percussion.

Measure numbers 15 through 21 are indicated below the brass and woodwind staves.

# Better Than Before

23

Voice (CH, FISH) fore. Bet-ter than be fore to this I do sub - scribe. A life in this pur - suit I will

Pno.

Bass

Dr.

Fl. *mp cresc.*

Ob.

Cl.

Tpt. 1 *legato cresc. p*

Tpt. 2 *legato cresc. p*

Hn. *mp cresc.*

B. Tbn. *legato cresc. p*

22 23 24 25 26 27 28

Vln. 1 *mp cresc.*

Vla. *mp cresc.*

Vla. *mp cresc.*

Vc. *mp cresc.*

Timp., Ch. TACET

Perc.

# Better Than Before

**30** Dialogue

Voice (CH, FISH)  
ful - ly now im - bibe.

Pno.

Bass

Dr. *p*

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. *p*

Tpt. 1 *p*

Tpt. 2 *p*

Hn.

B. Tbn. *p*

29                      30                      31                      32

Vln. 1

Vla.

Vla.

Vc.

Timp., Ch. TACET

Perc.

# Better Than Before

Voice (CH, FISH)

Pno.

Bass

Dr.

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

B. Tbn.

Vln. 1

Vla.

Vla.

Vc.

Timp., Ch. TACET

Perc.

33 34 35 36 37

*p*

# Better Than Before

Cue: CH hands LORD GREY  
his ear trumpet.

a tempo **42**

Voice  
(CH, FISH)

So fill me to the brim with chal-len-ges ga-lore I'll meet them each di-

Pno.

Bass

Dr.

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

B. Tbn.

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

Vln. 1

Vla.

Vla.

Vc.

Timp., Ch.  
TACET

Perc.

# Better Than Before

Meno mosso

♩ = 116

**3**  
**4**  
**51**

LORD FISHER: *p (freely)*

Voice  
(CH, FISH)

gest them and bel-ly up for more. En- trap me af-front me, no mat-ter at all. For

Pno.

*quasi recitative* Gm B $\flat$ /D Dm E $\flat$  Cm $7^{\flat 5}$

*mf* *mp*

Bass

Dr.

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

B. Tbn.

47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54

Vln. 1

Vla.

Vc.

Timp., Ch.  
TACET

Perc.



# Better Than Before



mf mp (mockingly) poco rit. (spoken)

you are a man be-neath me Your one des-ti - ny is so plain to see. Wel - come fail - ure!

Bb/F D7b9/F# Gm F/Eb Dm Gm Ebm6/Gb Bb/F E/F Eb/F F7

cresc. mp sempre p

p p p

p > p > p

55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66

legato cresc. legato cresc.

Timp., Ch. TACET

Perc.

# Better Than Before

Cue: CH: "God's teeth! You're a ray of sunshine!"

**Tempo primo**

$\text{♩} = 112$

CHURCHILL:

**68**

**2**

Voice  
(CH, FISH)

Now the key is to fo-cus on the aid of man - kind. Leave post-pub-es-cent hob-bies which

Pno.

Bass

Dr.

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

B. Tbn.

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

Vln. 1

Vla.

Vla.

Vc.

Timp., Ch.  
TACET

Perc.

# Better Than Before

78

Voice  
(CH, FISH)

on-ly tease the mind, I'll make it bet-ter than be fore. Shed a tear for the his-t'ry of the down - trod-den's cry, then

Pno.

Bass

Dr.

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

B. Tbn.

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

81

Vln. 1

Vla.

Vla.

Vc.

Timp., Ch.  
TACET

Perc.

to piccolo

*mp*

*mp*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mp*

*mp*

# Better Than Before

Cue: CH "...I'll be giving one at yours!" on cue

Voice  
(CH, FISH)

min-i-mize the speech-es and max- and max-i-mize the try to make it bet-ter than be-fore\_\_

Pno.

Bass

Dr.

CHURCHILL

(play)

and max-i-mize the try to make it *p*

Picc.

Ob.

Cl.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

B. Tbn.

82

83

84

85

86

87

88

Vln. 1

*sub p*

*sub p*

*sub p*

Vla.

Vla.

Vc.

*mp*

*sub p*

*f*

Timp., Ch.  
TACET

Perc.

*choke!*

to B.D.

*p* *f*

# Better Than Before

89

Voice (CH, FISH)  
Bet-ter than be fore a no-ble en-ter prise. Pray fate is on my side in this dar-ing ex-er-cise. So

Pno.

Bass

Dr.  
*mf*

Picc.  
*mf*

Ob.  
*mp*

Cl.  
*p*

Tpt. 1  
*mf legato*

Tpt. 2  
*mf legato*

Hn.  
*mf legato*

B. Tbn.  
*mf legato*

89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96

Vln. 1  
*mf*

Vla.  
*mf*

Vla.  
*mf*

Vc.  
*mf*

Timp., Ch.  
TACET

Perc.  
*p*

# Better Than Before

CHURCHILL acknowledges  
GILBERT

Voice  
(CH, FISH)

give me wor - thy foes but no I will not kneel\_\_\_ I'll

Pno.

Bass

Dr.

Picc.

Ob.

Cl.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

B. Tbn.

97

98

99

100

101

Vln. 1

Vla.

Vla.

Vc.

Timp., Ch.  
TACET

Perc.

# Better Than Before

Meno mosso

♩ = 116

FISHER: *as before*

3  
4

Voice  
(CH, FISH)

make them each Ach - il - les my ar-row in their heel

Re -

Piano (Pno.) part with *mf* dynamic marking.

Bass part.

Drum (Dr.) part with *pp* dynamic marking.

Piccolo (Picc.) part with *f* dynamic marking and instruction "to flute".

Oboe (Ob.) part with *mf* dynamic marking.

Clarinet (Cl.) part with *f* dynamic marking.

Trumpet 1 (Tpt. 1) part with *f* dynamic marking.

Trumpet 2 (Tpt. 2) part with *f* dynamic marking.

Horn (Hn.) part with *f* dynamic marking.

Bass Trombone (B. Tbn.) part with *f* dynamic marking.

102      103      104      105      106

Violin 1 (Vln. 1) part.

Viola 1 (Vla.) part.

Viola 2 (Vla.) part.

Violoncello (Vc.) part.

Timp., Ch.  
TACET

Percussion (Perc.) part with *damp* dynamic marking and instruction "to sus cym".

# Better Than Before

**3**  
**4** 107

Voice  
(CH, FISH)

fute me, dis - miss me, no mat - ter \_\_\_\_\_ at all, for your fate was

Pno.

Gm *mp* B $\flat$ /D E $\flat$  Cm $^7\flat^5$  B $\flat$ /F *cresc.*

Bass

Dr.

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

B. Tbn.

107

108

109

110

111

Vln. 1

Vla.

Vla. *p* *legato* *cresc.*

Vc. *p* *legato* *cresc.*

Timp., Ch. TACET

Perc.



# Better Than Before

Score for **Better Than Before**, page 17. The score includes parts for Voice (CH, FISH), Piano (Pno.), Bass, Drums (Dr.), Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet 1 (Tpt. 1), Trumpet 2 (Tpt. 2), Horn (Hn.), Bass Trombone (B. Tbn.), Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Timpani/Chimes (Timp., Ch. TACET) and Percussion (Perc.).

The vocal line (Voice) has the lyrics: "cast at his knee. Sin - ful va - ni - ty is the le - ga - cy".

The piano accompaniment (Pno.) features chords: D7b9/F#, Gm, F/Eb, Dm, Gm, and Ebm6/Gb. The dynamic marking *mp* is present.

The score is divided into measures 112 through 118. The dynamic markings *pp* and *p* are used in the instrumental parts.



# Better Than Before

123

rit.

Tempo primo

♩ = 112

CH:

Voice  
(CH, FISH)

from your fa - ther! Ov - er - - come ev - ery hur - dle, pay with blood sweat and tears. In -

Pno.

Bb/F E/F Eb/F F7

*sempre p*

Bass

*mp*

Dr.

*pp*

Fl.

*p*

to piccolo

Ob.

*p*

Cl.

*p*

Tpt. 1

*mf*

Tpt. 2

*mf*

Hn.

*mf*

B. Tbn.

B. Cl.

*mf* (play)

119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126

Vln. 1

*mf*

Vla.

*mf*

Vla.

*mf*

Vc.

*p* *p* *p*

*mf*

Timp., Ch.  
TACET

Perc.

to B.D.

*pp* *mp*

# Better Than Before

Voice (CH, FISH) *// (shouts)*

dif-frent brut-ish fath-ers and ev-en great-er fears to make it bet-ter than be fore. Giv-ing up can you

Pno.

Bass

Dr.

Picc.

Ob.

Cl.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

B. Tbn.

127 128 129 130 131 132 133

Vln. 1

Vla.

Vla.

Vc.

Timp., Ch. TACET

Perc.

# Better Than Before

**134** poco meno mosso

poco accel

on cue

Voice (CH, FISH)

hear me nev-er will I al - low. My cher-ub - ic suc - ces-ses one day you will av - ow I'll make it bet-ter than be-

Pno.

Bass

Dr.

Picc.

Ob.

Cl.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

B. Tbn.

134      135      136      137      138      139      140      141

Vln. 1

*mp legato*      *cresc.*

Vla.

*mp legato*      *cresc.*

Vla.

*mp legato*      *cresc.*

Vc.

*mp legato*      *cresc.*

Timp., Ch. TACET

Perc.

# Better Than Before

143 **Tempo primo**  
♩ = 112

Score for **Better Than Before**, page 21. The score includes parts for Voice (CH, FISH), Piano (Pno.), Bass, Drums (Dr.), Piccolo (Picc.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet 1 (Tpt. 1), Trumpet 2 (Tpt. 2), Horn (Hn.), Bass Trombone (B. Tbn.), Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Timpani/Chamberline (Timp., Ch. TACET) and Percussion (Perc.).

The music is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 112 beats per minute. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score is divided into measures 142 through 149.

**Lyrics:**  
fore. Bet-ter than be fore. His fate I do de - cline. My life is mine to make, I will ho-nour this blood

**Instrumental Details:**  
- **Drums:** *p* to *mf*  
- **Picc.:** *mp*, includes a trill in measure 148.  
- **Ob.:** *mf*, includes a crescendo in measure 145.  
- **Tpt. 1:** *f* in measure 142, *mf* in measure 145.  
- **Tpt. 2:** *mf*  
- **Hn.:** *mf*  
- **B. Tbn.:** *mf*  
- **Vln. 1:** *f*  
- **Vla. (top):** *f*, includes a *tr* in measure 143.  
- **Vla. (bottom):** *f*  
- **Vc.:** *f*  
- **Timp., Ch.:** TACET  
- **Perc.:** TACET

# Better Than Before

151

poco accel. to end

Voice  
(CH, FISH)

line. So fill me to the brim with chal - len - ges ga - lore. I'll

Pno.

Bass

Dr.

Picc.

Ob.

Cl.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

B. Tbn.

150

151

152

153

154

Vln. 1

Vla.

Vla.

Vc.

Timp., Ch.  
TACET

Perc.

*p*

# Better Than Before

Score for **Better Than Before**, page 23. The score includes parts for Voice (CH, FISH), Piano (Pno.), Bass, Drums (Dr.), Piccolo (Picc.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet 1 (Tpt. 1), Trumpet 2 (Tpt. 2), Horn (Hn.), Bass Trombone (B. Tbn.), Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Timpani/Chimes (Timp., Ch. TACET), and Percussion (Perc.).

The lyrics for the voice part are: "meet them each di - gest them and bel - ly up for more!"

The score is divided into measures 155 through 159. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 4/4. The score includes dynamic markings such as *f* (forte) and *mf* (mezzo-forte), and performance instructions like *damp* for the percussion. The score concludes with a repeat sign and a *G.P.* (Grand Finale) instruction.

# Better Than Before

**160** A tempo  
Scene change

Score for *Better Than Before*, measures 160-167. The score includes parts for Voice (CH, FISH), Piano (Pno.), Bass, Drums (Dr.), Piccolo (Picc.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet 1 (Tpt. 1), Trumpet 2 (Tpt. 2), Horn (Hn.), Bass Trombone (B. Tbn.), Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Timpani/Chimes (Timp., Ch. TACET) and Percussion (Perc.).

Measures 160-167 are marked with dynamics: *mf* (mezzo-forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano), *f* (forte), and *tr* (trill). The Piccolo part features a trill in measure 166. The Bass Trombone part has a dynamic marking of *mf*. The Violin 1 and Viola parts have a dynamic marking of *f*. The Trumpet 1 part has dynamic markings of *f* and *mf*. The Horn part has a dynamic marking of *mf*. The Oboe part has a dynamic marking of *mf*. The Clarinet part has a dynamic marking of *mf*. The Bass part has a dynamic marking of *mf*. The Drums part has a dynamic marking of *mf*. The Piano part has a dynamic marking of *mf*. The Voice part has a dynamic marking of *mf*. The Timpani/Chimes part is marked TACET. The Percussion part is marked TACET.



# Better Than Before

Score for **Better Than Before**, page 25. The score includes parts for Voice (CH, FISH), Piano (Pno.), Bass, Drums (Dr.), Piccolo (Picc.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet 1 (Tpt. 1), Trumpet 2 (Tpt. 2), Horn (Hn.), Bass Trombone (B. Tbn.), Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Percussion (Perc.).

The score is in 4/4 time and features a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The measures shown are numbered 168 through 175. The Percussion part includes a *TACET* instruction for the Timpani and Chimes (Timp., Ch.) and a *damp* instruction for the Percussion.

Measure numbers: 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175.