

A GRITTY RESOLUTION

for SATB choir



Music by Melissa Dunphy

Text by Helen Gym
adapted by Melissa Dunphy

2024

5 min

*Commissioned by PhilHarmonia | Mitos Andaya Hart, artistic director
Funded by individual donors and the Philadelphia Cultural Fund*

A GRITTY RESOLUTION

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At first, I was disgusted.
I was like, what the hell is this?
Why did you do this?
Why is this a thing?
It was like an hour after that
I fell in love with him.

A deranged orange lunatic,
a fuzzy eldritch horror,
a ghastly empty-eyed Muppet with a Delco beard,
a shaggy grotesquerie,
a non-binary leftist icon,
a raging id,
and an antihero.

Gritty floated from the rafters into our hearts and minds,
weaving his googly-eyed stare, maniacal smile,
and passion for hockey and hot dogs
into our deep subconscious.

We rose to his defense and claimed him as our own.

Gritty conveys the struggle of modern life under capitalism.
Gritty is a source of joy in a time of societal upheaval.
Like our steadfast commitment to justice in the face of adversity,
Gritty will not be mocked or stopped.

An acid trip of a mascot,
ridiculous, horrifying, unsettling, and absurd.
Sleep with one eye open tonight, bird.

Gritty may be a hideous monster,
but he is our own.

*Adapted from “A Resolution” by Helen Gym,
Philadelphia City Councilmember At Large, October 25, 2018
by Melissa Dunphy, with assistance from Adah Kaplan*

Cover image by Matt Dunphy



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Moderato =c.84

Soprano *mf* (optional solo) (tutti) *mp* *f* *p*

At first, I was dis-gust-ed. I was like, what the hell is this? Why did you

Alto *mp* *f*

I was like, what the hell is this?

Tenor *f*

What the hell is this?

Bass *f*

What the hell, what the hell is

Reduction *mf* *mp* *f* *p*

S. *mf*

do this? Why did you do this? Why, why is this a thing?

A. *p*

Why did you do this? Why did you do this? Why is this a thing?

T. *p*

Why did you do this? Why did you do this? Why is this a thing?

B. *p* *mf*

this? Why did you do this? Why, why is this a thing?

10

A **Piu mosso** $\text{♩}=\text{c.92}$

S. It was like an hour af-ter that, that I fell in love, fell in

A. It was like an hour af-ter that I fell in

T. It was like an hour af-ter that I fell in

B. It was like an hour af-ter that I fell in

14

mf

p tenderly

S. love with him. A de -

A. love with, I fell in love.

T. love, I fell in love.

B. love, in love with him.

mp

p tenderly

A GRITTY RESOLUTION | Page 3

B

19

S. *ranged or - ange lu-na-tic,* *a* *fuzz - y el-dritch hor - ror,* *a*

A. *pp tenderly* *mf* *mp*

T. *Oo,* *(the good one),* *an el-dritch hor - ror a*

B. *pp tenderly* *mp*

S. *Oo,* *a fuzz - y el-dritch hor - ror,*

A. *mf*

T. *mp*

B. *mp*

23

S. *ghast - ly emp-ty-eyed Mup-pet* *with a Del - co beard,*

A. *ghast - ly emp-ty-eyed Mup-pet with a Del - co beard,*

T. *ghast - ly Mup-pet with a Del - co beard, with a Del - co* *mf*

B. *a ghast - ly Mup-pet* *with a Del - co beard,* *a* *mf*

A GRITTY RESOLUTION | Page 4

C

27

S. *p* > < *mf* 3
oo, a non - bi-na-ry left - ist i - con,

A. *p* > < *mf* 3
oo, a non - bi-na-ry left - ist i - con, a

T. *p* > < *mf* 3
8 beard, oo, a non - bi-na-ry left-ist i - con, a rag - ing-

B. *mf* 3
shag - gy, shag - gy gro - tes - que - rie, a non - bi-na-ry left - ist i - con, a

p < 3 *mf* 3
mf 3

32

S. -
and an an - ti - he - ro. Oh,

A. -
rag - ing id, and an an - ti - he - ro. Oh,

T. 8 id, and an an - ti - he - ro. Oh,

B. -
rag - ing id, and an an - ti - he - ro.

D

A GRITTY RESOLUTION | Page 5

36 *f*

S. Grit - ty float-ed from the raft-ers in - to our hearts and minds, weav-ing his_

A. — Grit - ty float-ed from the raft-ers in - to our hearts and minds, weav-ing his_

T. — Grit - ty float-ed from the raft-ers in - to our hearts, in - to our hearts and

B. *f*
Grit - ty float - - - ed in - to our hearts and minds,

f

40

S. goog - ly - eyed stare, ma - ni - ac - al smile,

A. goog - ly - eyed stare, his ma - ni - ac - al smile, and his

T. minds, weav - ing his ma - ni - ac - al smile,

B. weav-ing his goog-ly-eyed stare, and his smile, and his

44

S. *mf*

his pas-sion for hock-ey and hot dogs, in - to our

A.

pas-sion for hock-ey and hot dogs, his pas - sion for hot_dogs in-to our

T. *mf*

his_ pas-sion for hock-ey and hot dogs in-to our

B.

pas - sion, his pas-sion for hock-ey and hot - dogs, for hot dogs

48

S. *p* *f*

deep sub - con-scious. We rose to his de-fense and claimed him as our

A. *p* *f*

deep sub - con - scious. We rose to his de-fense

T. *p* *f*

deep sub - con - scious. We rose to his de-fense

B. *p* *f*

in - to our sub - con-scious. We rose to his de-fense and claimed him as our

52

S. *mp*
own. claimed him as our own.

A. *mf*
we rose to his de-fense and claimed him as our own, claimed him as our own.

T. *mf* *mp*
we rose to his de-fense and claimed him as our own. Grit - ty con -

B. *mp*
own. Grit - ty con -

E

56

S. *mp*
Grit-ty con-veys the strug-gle of mod-ern life_ un-der cap-i-tal - is-m. Grit-ty is a source of

A. *mp* *fp* *pesante*
Grit-ty con-veys the strug-gle of mod-ern life_ un-der cap-i-tal - is-m. Grit - ty,

T. *fp* *pesante* *fp* *pesante* *fp* *mf*
-veys. Grit - ty, Grit - ty, Grit - ty, Grit - ty, Grit-ty is a source of

B. *fp* *fp* *pesante* *fp* *fp* *fp*
-veys, Grit - ty, Grit - ty, Grit - ty is a source,

61

S. joy in a time of so-ci-e-tal up-heav - al. Like our stead-fast com-

A. Grit - ty, in a time of so-ci-e-tal up-heav - al. Like our stead-fast com-

T. joy in a time of so-ci-e-tal up-heav - al, up-heav - al.

B. Grit - ty, a time of so-ci-e-tal up-heav - al.

65

S. mit-ment to jus - tice in the face of ad - ver - si - ty, Grit-ty will not be

A. mit-ment to jus - tice, Grit - ty, Grit - ty, will not be

T. Grit - ty, in the face of ad - ver - si - ty, Grit-ty will not be

B. Grit - ty, Grit - ty, Grit - ty will not be

69

S. mocked or stopped. A de - ranged or - ange

A. mocked or, Grit-ty will not be stopped. A de -

T. mocked or stopped. A de - ranged or - ange

B. mocked or, Grit-ty will not be stopped. A de -

f

F

73

S. lu-nat-ic, a fuzz - y el-dritch hor- ror, a ghast - ly

A. ranged or - ange lu-nat-ic, a ghast - ly emp-ty-eyed

T. lu - na-tic, a fuzz - y el-dritch hor - ror

B. ranged or - ange lu-nat-ic, a fuzz - y el-dritch hor- ror, a

mf

mf

mf

mf

77

S. emp - ty - eyed Mup - pet with a Del - co beard, an

A. Mup - pet with a Del - co beard, an

T. 8 with a Del - co beard, an

B. Mup - pet with a Del - co, with a Del - co

f

f

f

G

S. a-cid trip of a mas - cot, ri - dic - u-lous, hor - ri - fy - ing, un - set - tling and ab-

A. a-cid trip of a mas - cot, ri - dic-u-lous, un - set - tling and ab-

T. 8 a-cid trip of a mas - cot, ri - dic - u-lous, hor - ri-fy - ing,

B. beard, an a-cid trip of a mas - cot, hor - ri - fy - ing.

p

p

p

f

p

85

S. surd. Sleep with one eye o - pen to - night, bird.____

A. surd. Sleep with one eye o - pen to - night, bird.

T. 8 Sleep with one eye o - pen to - night. Oh,_

B. Sleep with one eye o - pen to - night bird. Oh,

f

H

90 descant solo *f*

Grit - ty float - ed from the raft - ers in - to our hearts and

S. Grit - ty float - ed from the raft - ers in - to our hearts and

A. Grit - ty, float-ed from the raft-ers in - to our hearts and minds, weav-ing his

T. 8 Grit - ty float - ed from the raft-ers in - to our hearts and minds, weav-ing his_

B. Grit - ty float - - - ed in - to our hearts and minds,

f

A GRITTY RESOLUTION | Page 12

94

S. minds, weave - ing his____ goog - ly eyed_ stare.

S. minds weave-ing his_ stare, man - i - ac - al smile, and his

A. goog - ly eyed____ stare, man - i - ac - al smile,

T. goog - ly eyed____ stare, man - i - ac - al smile, and his

B. weave-ing his goog - ly-eyed stare, and his smile, and his

I 98 ff

S. pas - sion for hock - ey and hot dogs, his____ pas - sion for hock - ey and

A. and his pas - sion for hock - ey and hot dogs, hock - ey and

T. pas - sion for hock - ey and hot dogs, his pas - sion

B. pas - sion, his pas - sion for hock - ey and hot dogs, for

101

S. *p*
hot dogs in - to our deep sub - con - scious. We

A. *p*
hot dogs in - to our deep sub - con - scious.

T. *p*
in - to our deep sub - con - scious.

B. *p*
hot dogs in - to our sub - con - scious. We

rit.

104 *f* *mp* **Tempo primo** $\text{♩} = \text{c.84}$

S. rose to his de - fense and claimed him as our

A. *f* We rose to his de - fense.

T. *f* We rose to his de - fense.

B. *f* rose to his de - fense.

rit. *f* *mp*

A GRITTY RESOLUTION | Page 14

J

107

S. own, claimed him as our

A. Grit-ty may be a hid - e - ous mon-ster, but he is our,

T. 8 Grit-ty may be a hid - e - ous mon-ster, but he is our,

B. 8 Grit-ty may be a hid - e - ous mon-ster, but he's our
rit.

p

111

S. own,

A. p he is our own.

T. 8 he is our own.

B. 8 own, he is our own.

p