

Hildegard von Bingen (1098-1179) was in many ways an extraordinary woman. An accomplished composer, scholar, visual artist, writer, singer, nun, and theologian, she was a Renaissance woman before there was such a thing.

She was also blessed with an unusual gift. By her own account, Hildegard began to see visions at the age of three (the Latin phrase she uses to describe the sensation of these visions translates to "The Shade of the Living Light"), and by age five she came to believe that she was experiencing divine visions. At the age of 42, she experienced a grand revelation that became the basis for her monumental tome *Scivias*, or "Knowings."

The text of *Vidi* is taken from two sources – the first is an English translation of the *Scivias*, and it contains snippets of instructions that God gave to Hildegard during her visions. The second text source is a letter in Latin that Hildegard wrote to a friend attempting to explain how she experienced these visions. Before the piece begins, a translation of that letter will be read aloud. Throughout the piece, you will hear Hildegard muttering to herself in Latin as if in a trance interspersed with divine commands in English. You will also hear actual chant melodies composed by Hildegard woven into her mutterings.

#### Text as it will be Sung

Et video (vidi) et audio (audivi) et scio omnes illico.  
Quos video, vigilans, die ac nocte.

"O fragile human, ashes of ashes, and filth of filth,  
say and write what you see and hear."

Quos video in anima mea.  
Ego non exaudiam eos cum meus auribus.  
Tunc vidi iterum audivi.

"O fragile human, ashes of ashes, and filth of filth,  
say and write what you see and hear."

Vidi, audivi...  
"Cry out therefore and write thus!"

#### Translation

And I see (I saw) and I hear (I heard) and I know all at once  
I see them them wide awake, day and night.

I see them in my soul.  
I do not hear them with my ears.  
Then I saw, again I heard.

I saw, I heard...

# VIDI

## (The Visions of Hildegard)

for Mixed Voices S.S.A.A.T.T.B.B., unaccompanied

Latin text excerpted from

THE EPISTLE TO

GUIBERT OF GEMBOLOUX, HILEGARD

Translation by

MOTHER COLUMBA HART

and JANE BISHOP

Music by

ALEC SCHUMACKER

Mystically  $\text{♩} = 64$  *p*

ALTO 1  
Vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di,

ALTO 2  
Vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di,

TENOR 1  
*p*  
Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

TENOR 2  
*p*  
Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

BASS 1  
*P*  
Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

BASS 2

A.1  
vi-di, et au-di-vi, vi-di au-di-vi vi-di au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di

A.2  
vi-di, et au-di-vi, vi-di au - di-vi vi-di au - di-vi vi-di

T.1  
Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

T.2  
Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

B.1  
Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

B.2  
*P*  
Vi-di, Vi-di,

Lyrics excerpted from *Hildegard of Bingen: Scivias*, Translated by Mother Columba Hart and Jane Bishop,  
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7 SOPRANO 2 *p*

S.2 Au - di-vi,

A.1 au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di

A.2 au - di-vi vi - di au - di-vi vi - di au - di-vi vi - di

T.1 Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

T.2 Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

B.1 Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

B.2 Au-di-vi, au-di - vi, Vi-di au-di-vi, Vi-di, vi-di, au-di-vi,

10

S.2 Au - di-vi, Au - di-vi, Au - di-vi

A.1 au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di

A.2 au - di-vi vi - di au - di-vi vi - di au - di-vi vi - di

T.1 Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

T.2 Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

B.1 Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

B.2 Vi-di, vi-di, au-di-vi, Au-di-vi, au-di-vi, Au-di-vi, vi-di, vi-di

S.1 Vi - de-o Vi - de-o Vi - de-o

S.2 Vi - de-o Vi - de-o Vi - de-o

A.1 *mp* au-di-vi vi-di vi-di au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di

A.2 *mp* au - di-vi vi - di au - di-vi vi - di au - di-vi vi - di

T.1 *mp* Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

T.2 *mp* Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

B.1 *mp* Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

B.2 *mp* Au-di-vi, vi-di, vi-di Au-di-vi, vi-di, Quos\_ vi - de\_

16

S.1 Vi - de-o Vi - de-o Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, *mf*

S.2 Vi - de-o Vi - de-o Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, *mf*

A.1 au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di *mf*

A.2 au - di-vi vi - di au - di-vi vi - di au - di-vi vi - di *mf*

T.1 *mf* Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

T.2 *mf* Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

B.1 *mf* Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

B.2 *mf* o vi - gi-lans di - e ac noc - te

**B**

S.1 *mp* 3 3  
Di - e ac noc - te

S.2 *mp* 3 3  
Di - e ac noc - te Di - e ac noc -

A.1 *mp*  
au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di

A.2 *mp*  
au - di-vi vi - di au - di-vi vi - di au - di-vi vi - di

T.1 *mp*  
Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

T.2 *mp*  
Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

B.1 *mp*  
Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

B.2 *mp* 3 3  
Di - e ac noc - te

22

S.1 *mp* 3 3  
Di - e ac noc - te

S.2 *mf* *p* 3 3  
- te Di - e ac noc - te

A.1 *mf*  
au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di

A.2 *mf*  
au - di-vi vi - di au - di-vi vi - di au - di-vi vi - di

T.1 *mf*  
Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

T.2 *mf*  
Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

B.1 *mf*  
Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di,

B.2 *mf* 3  
vi-di Au-di-vi vi-di vi-di, Au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-

25

S.1 au-di-vi et sci-o, au-di-vi et

S.2 au-di-vi et sci-o, Au-di-vi vi-di

A.1 au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di sci-o, Au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di

A.2 au-di-vi vi-di sci-o, Au-di-vi vi-di

T.1 Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, au-di-vi et sci-o, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, au-di-vi et

T.2 Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, au-di-vi et sci-o, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, au-di-vi et

B.1 Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, au-di-vi et sci-o, Au-di-vi vi-di au-di-vi et

B.2 vi, Au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o, Au-di-vi vi-di au-di-vi et

28

S.1 sci-o, Vi-di sci-o, vi-di sci-o,

S.2 sci-o, Au-di-vi, vi-di sci-o,

A.1 sci-o, Au-di-vi vi-di, vi-di sci-o, vi-di sci-o,

A.2 sci-o, Au-di-vi vi-di sci-o, vi-di sci-o,

T.1 sci-o, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, au-di-vi et sci-o, au-di-vi et sci-o,

T.2 sci-o, Vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, vi-di, au-di-vi et sci-o, au-di-vi et sci-o,

B.1 sci-o, Au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o, au-di-vi et sci-o,

B.2 sci-o, Au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o, au-di-vi et sci-o,

**C**

S.1

S.2 *p* *mp* *mp*  
vi-di sci-o, vi-di sci-o,

A.1 *p* *mp*  
au-di-vi vi-di sci-o, au-di-vi vi-di sci-o,

A.2 *p* *mp*  
au-di-vi vi-di sci-o, au-di-vi vi-di sci-o,

T.1 *p* *mp*  
au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o, au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o,

T.2 *p* *mp*  
au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o, au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o,

B.1 *p* *mp*  
au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o, au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o,

B.2 *p* *mp*  
au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o, au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o,

37

S.1 *f*  
au-di-vi vi-di sci-o, au-di-vi vi-di sci-o,

S.2 *f*  
au-di-vi vi-di sci-o, au-di-vi vi-di sci-o,

A.1 *f*  
au-di-vi vi-di sci-o, au-di-vi vi-di sci-o,

A.2 *f*  
au-di-vi vi-di sci-o, au-di-vi vi-di sci-o,

T.1 *f*  
au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o, au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o,

T.2 *f*  
au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o, au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o,

B.1 *f*  
au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o, au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o,

B.2 *f*  
au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o, au-di-vi, au-di-vi, au-di-vi et sci-o,