

Journey to Horseshoe Bend – cantata, a proposal by Kalton Williams

A cantata for narrator, Aboriginal chorus and orchestra based on T.G.H. Strehlow's *Journey to Horseshoe Bend*

Duration: 30-40 minutes

Text:

Selections from T.G.H. Strehlow's *Journey to Horseshoe Bend*, Lutheran chorales in Strehlow's Aranda translations

Comprising Lutheran chorales, rhythmic or melodic elements from Aranda chant (as transcribed by Catherine Ellis)

Basic scheme:

Movements

Text

Music

*Hermannsburg:*

*JHB*, p.1: 'The last morning at Hermannsburg had arrived...

Sunrise

'the calls of birds – miners, willy wagtails, and crows'

*Strehlow's personality from first trip education (white, + black)*

*JHB*, p.2: "'Jakai, ingkata nunaka" ("Alas, our chief!")

*JHB*, pp.22-23: Sing a hymn

*Karerai*

*wolambaranjai* (Wachet auf)

*En route:*

*JHB*, p.33 'At ten o'clock...

The long, reed-fringed water-hole of Alitera was reached.

[Here] the two... baleful [ilumbalitnana]serpents had slithered on westward while their uncle was sleeping; and the wails of the deserted wallaby ancestor had filled the Finke valley

*odnadatta*

Wailing

*JHB*, pp.35-49

Irbmangkara *had*

the tragic events at Irbmangkara and its ominous atmosphere

*By [when?] been reached*

*myths Aranda*