# The Two Kinds of People

### **Charity & Greed**

SATB Chorus with Piano

from Virtues & Vices

Music by Daniel Watson Text by Ella Wheeler Wilcox



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**The Two Kinds of People** by Ella Wheeler Wilcox (1850-1919)

There are two kinds of people on earth to-day; Just two kinds of people, no more, I say.

Not the sinner and saint, for it's well understood, The good are half bad and the bad are half good.

Not the rich and the poor, for to rate a man's wealth, You must first know the state of his conscience and health.

Not the humble and proud, for in life's little span, Who puts on vain airs is not counted a man.

Not the happy and sad, for the swift flying years Bring each man his laughter and each man his tears.

No; the two kinds of people on earth I mean, Are the people who lift and the people who lean.

Wherever you go, you will find the earth's masses Are always divided in just these two classes.

And, oddly enough, you will find, too, I ween, There's only one lifter to twenty who lean.

In which class are you? Are you easing the load Of overtaxed lifters, who toil down the road?

Or are you a leaner, who lets others share Your portion of labor, and worry and care?



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#### Note from the Composer

Virtues and Vices is a seven-movement choral masterwork that explores the "seven deadly sins" and their parallel virtues. This work uniquely weaves sacred themes through secular texts, incorporating contemporary, folk, and jazz styles. After a decade in the sketchbook, Virtues and Vices invites performers and audiences alike to reflect on the coexistence of holiness and sin in humanity.

"The Two Kinds of People" is the first movement of Virtues and Vices: 7 Pieces for SATB Chorus and Piano and it explores the virtue/vice of generosity/greed. This movement is the cautionary preamble for the movements to follow. The minor tonality, folksy melody, and use of repetition combine with the text for an ominous effect that draws the ear. The melodic and harmonic simplicity directs attention to the text, which poignantly asks the listener to consider what kind of person they are.

**Daniel Watson** is a versatile composer, teacher, and musician from Indianapolis, Indiana. Inspired by the beauty of the natural world, Watson's music challenges performers and audiences to heighten their senses through sound. His first choral masterwork, Virtues and Vices, premiered at the University of Indianapolis in 2024, commissioned by Sound Ecologies Inc. In 2023, he won the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir National Christmas Carol Commission Competition with his work "Good News!". Watson has had the privilege of performing, directing, and premiering compositions at Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center, and venues throughout Great Britain, France, Switzerland, Austria, Germany, and the United States. He continues to be commissioned for new works for professional, collegiate, high school, and middle school singers.

Watson has been recognized for his dedication to music education with the Outstanding Future Music Educator of the Year Award (2015) from the Indiana Music Education Association and the National Professional Achievement Award (2014, 2015) from the National Association for Music Education. He is the Director of Choirs at Greenwood Community High School, Associate Faculty of Music at Indiana University Indianapolis, and the owner of Daniel Watson Music LLC (danielscottwatson.com). He maintains an active private music studio (voice, piano, composition) and regularly collaborates in the community through conducting, piano and vocal performance, and composing.



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