The Lost Chord
With Optional Violin Obbligato

Arthur Sullivan (1842–1900) was an English composer who succeeded well in whatever line of music he undertook, whether choral, orchestral, operatic or ballads. His most famous ballad was "The Lost Chord." In the year 1872 he found and preserved a newspaper clipping containing Miss Proctor's poem, intending to set it to music, but the two or three attempts he made did not satisfy him and he set the work aside. Five years later (1877), while sitting one night at the bedside of his dying brother Frederic, he came across the old clipping, and instantly the proper theme occurred to him. By morning he had the entire composition on paper. A day or two later it was accepted for publication, and in a few months it became very popular on both sides of the Atlantic. Since then several million copies have been sold. Had Arthur Sullivan never written anything but "The Lost Chord," this one song alone would have immortalized him.

The Obbligato and the Editing
by Henry S. Sawyer.

Music by Arthur Seymour Sullivan
Words by Adelaide A. Proctor

Andante Moderato

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Seat-ed one day at the organ, I was

wea-ry and ill at ease, And my fin-gers wandered id-ly o-ver the noisy keys;

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know not what I was playing, Or what I was dreaming then, But I

struck one chord of music Like the sound of a great Amen, Like the sound of a

(Small notes optional.)

great Amen.
It flooded the crimson twilight Like the close of an Angel's Psalm, And it

5th pos. 3rd pos.

lay on my fevered spirit With a touch of infinite calm; It quieted pain and

4th pos. 1st pos.

sorrow Like love overcoming strife, It seemed the harmonious
If it were loth to cease,
I have sought, but I seek it

one perfect peace,
And troubled a way into silence
As

-cho! From our discordant life;
It linked all perplexed meanings Into-
vainly, That one lost chord divine, Which came from the soul of the

organ And entered into mine. 

may be that Death's bright Angel Will speak in that chord again; It
may be that only in Heavn I shall hear that grand Amen; It may be that Death's bright

Angel will speak in that chord again, It may be that only in Heavn I shall

hear that grand Amen.