

Warrior's Wyrð

Words: Ivar Battleskald

Music: Sing Hallelujah (to the Lord) by Linda Stassen-Benjamin (1974)

The image shows a musical score for the song 'Warrior's Wyrð'. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The first system contains the lyrics: 'Picked up a sword when I was young' and 'And I will die be-fore I'm old'. The second system contains the lyrics: 'Picked up a sword when I was young' and 'And I will die be-fore I'm old'. The third system contains the lyrics: 'Raised as a war-ri-or, fame was my fa-ther, Death was my mo-ther, bathed in blood' and 'old fame was my fa-ther, Death was my mo-ther, bathed in Death was my mo-ther, bathed in'. The piano accompaniment is in 4/4 time and features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a more complex rhythmic pattern in the left hand.

Picked up a sword when I was young
And I will die before I'm old
Raised as a warrior, fame was my father,
Death was my mother, bathed in blood

Followed the banner to the fray
And there I fought throughout the day
Eagles did circle there, as wolves feast we prepared
Wounded, though then I did not die

I've heard the death screams as men go
I've seen the blood in rivers flow
I've heard the surgeon's song, and I do know ere long,
One day too slow to dodge I'll be

One day I'll look up to the sky,
And see the lightning flash on high
Dark clouds come rolling in, then I will know my end
Singing I'll go to meet my bane

When I am gone, no tears for me
Let there instead be revelry!
Have skalds the sagas say, sing heroes' deeds that day,
Fill all the horns and drain them down

All of my life I've hoped one thing
All of my deeds the skalds to sing
For when a warrior's gone, if you do sing his song,
Truly, the warrior never dies