

YOU BETTER MIND

T(T)B Voices with Piano, Optional *a cappella*

Traditional Spiritual

Arranged by
Reginal Wright

BriLee Music
the Voice of Choral Music

BriLee Music
Part-by-Part



For Accompaniment and Rehearsal Audio
Go to: BriLeeMusic.com/BL1349

Ranges:



Language: English
Use: General
Time: Approx. 2:00
*Difficulty: Moderate

Performance Notes

You Better Mind was created for the Schola Cantorum Project sponsored by the Fort Worth Chorale in Fort Worth Texas. This spiritual displays the creative ability of the African American to create incidental songs and this selection is a warning to be wary of who to trust and how much one should talk.

You Better Mind contains an energy filled dialect and is to be performed in that manner. Take full advantage of the built in “swing” feel as you move through the lines. Maintain tall but relaxed vowels, but be careful to depict the language accurately. For example: words that end in “er” (ex. Brother) should end in a shwa sound. Also unstressed “t” should be stopped. For Example, better = “bedah”. If crescendo / decrescendo markings aren’t expressly written, perform dynamic changes as subito. Lastly, give care to the stress on multi-syllabic words. Most will contain tenuto markings.

About the Composer

Reginal Wright is a composer, conductor, and educator who creates works in collaboration with choirs and music educators. As an educator, Reginal has earned many awards over the span of his 20 plus year career. Reginal has performed throughout Europe and the United States. As a conductor, he is a sought-after clinician in both middle and high school. As a composer, Reginal’s works have been commissioned by middle school, high school, college, and professional choirs. With works performed by All-State Choirs and invited convention choirs, his “Invictus” was performed in the 2021 ACDA National Convention and by the 2022 Texas All-State Tenor-Bass Choir.

Reginal’s works are published and distributed through BriLee, Carl Fisher, Graphite, Hal Leonard, Oxford University Press, Santa Barbara Music Publishing, Walton, and his own publishing company, Reginal Wright Music. Reginal resides in Arlington, Texas.

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With conviction ♩ = 60

Piano *mf*

4 Tenor* *mf*

Bass *mf*

You bet - ter mind** how — you talk. You bet - ter

You bet - ter mind** how — you talk. You bet - ter

7 *mp*

mind what you're talk-ing*** a - bout. You got to give an ac-count at the

mind what you're talk-ing*** a - bout. You got to give an ac-count at the

mp

* All optional notes are at the conductor's discretion. If Tenor 1 notes are too low, only Tenor 2 sings.

** Pronounced "betta min"

*** Pronounced "talkin"

10

8

judge - ment you bet - ter mind. You bet - ter

judge - ment you bet - ter mind. You bet - ter

mf

mf

mf

13

8

mind how — you talk. Mind talk - ing a - bout.

mind, Yes, You bet - ter mind what you're talk - ing a - bout.

16

8

mp

You got to give an ac-count at the judge - ment you bet - ter

mp

You got to give an ac-count at the judge - ment you bet - ter

mp

30

mp

You bet - ter mind what you're sing-ing a - bout. You got to

how_ you sing. You bet - ter mind what you're sing-ing a-bout.

mp

33

mp

give an ac - count at the judge - ment you bet - ter mind.

Give an ac - count at the judge - ment you bet - ter mind.

36

f

You bet - ter mind my bro - ther.

f

You bet - ter mind my bro - ther.

f

39

8 *mp*
Mind my sis - ter. You got to give an ac - count at the

mp
Mind my sis - ter. You got to give an ac - count at the

mp

42

8 *f*
judge - ment you bet - ter mind. You bet - ter

f
judge - ment you bet - ter mind. You bet - ter

f

45

8
mind my bro - ther. Mind my

mind my bro - ther. Mind my

48 *mp*

sis - ter. You got to give an ac - count at the judge - ment, you got to

mp

sis - ter. You got to give an ac - count at the judge - ment, you bet - ter got to

51 *mf* *f*

give an ac - count at the judge - ment, you got to give an ac - count at the

mf *f*

give an ac - count at the judge - ment, you bet - ter got to give an ac - count at the

54 *rit.*

judge - ment, you bet - ter mind, you bet - ter mind.

judge - ment, you bet - ter mind, you bet - ter mind.

rit.