

Die and Be Reborn

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The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of two systems. Each system has three staves: Soprano 1, Soprano 2, and Alto. The lyrics are as follows:

System 1:
Soprano 1: Like the phoe- nix and the grain king,
Soprano 2: Die _____ and be re- born a- gain,
Alto: Be born, live and die, then be

System 2:
S 1: Like the sun God and the moon queen,
S 2: Die _____ and be re- born.
A: born, live and die, then be

Note: Usually, the Alto part starts first, and sings at least 2-4 repetitions, then the 2nd Soprano is added for 2-4 more repetitions. Finally, the 1st Soprano part is added as what is called a "descant," in other words, a higher part above the rest.

Another alternative is to sing it like a round, in the sequence Alto-2nd Soprano-1st Soprano parts, singing each part twice through before changing, and staggering their entrances to create the round. Often this is harder to maintain, unless each section of the round has a leader to follow.