## **ATIMIA**

## John A. Wickersham

In Greek society, the term Atimia (ah-tee-mee-ah) represented the loss of honor and pride. Atimia was the term used when a Greek citizen lost his citizenship due to many possible situations. Citizenship was a very honorable possession in Greek society. If one lost citizenship, it was considered very discreditable and dishonorable. The piece, Atimia, is a reflection upon the struggles the author was going through during the composition process. Under the title, the phrase "Through hardship and adversity, true character is shown" appears. This is a very important phrase to understand in the performance of Atimia. Every situation can be overcome and one can always regain honor inside. The story of Atimia is about rising above and conquering the-hardships and adversity that life provides.

Atimia is written in three sections: a chorale, a middle (lateral) section, and a recap of the chorale. Throughout all of these sections, there are no time signatures present. Through the chorale sections especially, one should not be concerned with trying to calculate the time signatures. The performer should set the metronome to the desired tempo and focus on playing the note values of the chorale correctly. If one accomplishes this well, there is no need to focus your time on learning time signatures. During the lateral section, the performer should note the groupings of notes to find the agogiac accents of the piece. One will find that most of them have been notated by a tenudo or accent.

I will be more than happy to answer any and all questions about *Atimia*. Please feel free to contact me at wickersham.john@gmail.com

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