

## How Great Thou Art: Stuart K Hine (1953)<sup>1</sup>

**Visualisation:** TD1

**Analysis:** Awe & adoration. Sadly its language implies polytheism—my god vs your god. It is also a polydirectional song, both *to* God and *about* God & his son. Taking God His Son not sparing as defining *God*, *God* here means the father, so the song may be addressed to him as such for good visualisation. There is much archaism (art/hath/thee/thy). My soul is strange: *I speak to myself* is *I speak to I*, the middle voice, but we still say it. Perhaps the problem is understanding the soul—anthropology. There really should be a comma between saviour, and God: saviour, and God, not a saviour god compared to other god-types. Philosophical monotheism prefers the expression that God is greatness, rather than merely being great comparatively. I appreciate that not all would wish to bother with philosophical niceties. Not all have walked in Carpathian woods, but all can do so in imagination. The third stanza needs most change for unified visualisation: it is hardly still praying to the father about God and his son! It's broken the prayer focus.

The song packs a good wallop, covering aspects of creation and the new creation; at the now, and at the future. A powerful & outstanding song.

**Suggestions:** Replace O lord my god, **by** My father, God; art/hath/thee/thy, **by** are/has/you/you; sings my soul, **by** I do sing; how great, by greatness; God his son, **by** you your son; proclaim, my god, **by** proclaim, father.

BAG	A	B	C	D	E	F	G <sup>1,2</sup>	H <sup>1,2</sup>	I	J <sup>1,2,3</sup>	K	L	M	Total	Grade
	-	-	8	-	-	8	-	-	-	24	-	-	-	60	C

<sup>1</sup> [www.howgreatthouarthymn.com/words.html](http://www.howgreatthouarthymn.com/words.html)

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A = Mixed Themes (-4); B = Incompletism (-4); C = Archaism (-8);

D = Blessing God (-4); E = Buddy or Boyfriend (-4); F = Polytheism (-8); G = Voxdeism: Soft (-24), Hard (-48);

H = Unitarianism: Soft (-60), Hard (-72); I = Misdirection (-12); J = Misvisualisation: Soft (-12), Mid (-24),

Hard (-36); K = Boasting (-8); L = Decontextualising (-8); M = Hermit Harakiri (-12)