

Pieces of Night



For SSA chorus and viola

Text by Sara Teasdale

Jonathan Kolm

For three-part women's chorus (SSA) and viola

Duration: 9'

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MAY NIGHT

The spring is fresh and fearless
And every leaf is new,
The world is brimmed with moonlight,
The lilac brimmed with dew.

Here in the moving shadows
I catch my breath and sing--
My heart is fresh and fearless
And over-brimmed with spring.

AT NIGHT

We are apart; the city grows quiet between us,
She hushes herself, for midnight makes heavy her eyes,
The tangle of traffic is ended, the cars are empty,
Five streets divide us, and on them the moonlight lies.

Oh are you asleep, or lying awake, my lover?
Open your dreams to my love and your heart to my words.
I send you my thoughts--the air between us is laden,
My thoughts fly in at your window, a flock of wild birds.

MOONLIGHT

It will not hurt me when I am old,
A running tide where moonlight burned
Will not sting me like silver snakes;
The years will make me sad and cold,
It is the happy heart that breaks.

The heart asks more than life can give,
When that is learned, then all is learned;
The waves break fold on jewelled fold,
But beauty itself is fugitive,
It will not hurt me when I am old.

PEACE

Peace flows into me
As the tide to the pool by the shore;
It is mine forevermore,
It ebbs not back like the sea.

I am the pool of blue
That worships the vivid sky;
My hopes were heaven-high,
They are all fulfilled in you.

I am the pool of gold
When sunset burns and dies, --
You are my deepening skies,
Give me your stars to hold.

TONIGHT

The moon is a curving flower of gold,
The sky is still and blue;
The moon was made for the sky to hold,
And I for you;

The moon is a flower without a stem,
The sky is luminous;
Eternity was made for them,
To-night for us.

I. May Night

Jonathan Kolm (2008)

Joyful ♩ = 112

SOPRANO 1 *mp solo* The spring is fresh and

SOPRANO 2

ALTO

Viola *mp*

6 fear- less_ And eve-ry leaf is new, *mf*

10 *mp* The world is_ brimmed with moon light, The

15 li - lac brimmed with dew. *cresc. poco a poco*

20 *mf* Here in the mov-ing shad ows_ I *f* *mf*

24

catch my breath and sing My

heart is fresh and fear less_

27

And o-verbrimmed with spring.

poco rit.

II. At Night

With Longing ♩ = 56

(tutti) *p*

We are a-part; the cit-y grows qui-et be tween us, She hush-es her-self, for

p

We are a-part; the cit-y grows qui-et be tween us, She hush-es her-self, for

p

We are a-part; the cit-y grows qui-et be tween us, She hush-es her-self, for

6

mid night makes heav-y her eyes, her eyes, The tan-gle of traf-fic is end-ed, is end-ed,

mf

mid night makes heav-y her eyes, her eyes, The tan-gle of traf-fic is end-ed, is end-ed,

mf

mid night makes heav-y her eyes, her eyes, The tan-gle of traf-fic is end-ed, is end-ed,

11

the cars are emp-ty, — are emp ty, — Five streets di - vide us, — and on them the moon-light

the cars are emp-ty, — are emp ty, — Five streets di - vide us, — and on them the moon-light

the cars are emp-ty, — are emp ty, — Five streets di - vide us, — and on them the moon-light

18

lies. the moon-light lies. — Oh are you a

lies. the moon-light lies. — Oh are you a

lies. the moon-light lies. — Oh are you a

espress.

mf *f* *mp*

24

sleep, or ly-ing a- wake, my lov- er? — O-pen — your dreams

sleep, or ly-ing a- wake, my lov- er? — O-pen — your dreams

sleep, or ly-ing a- wake, my lov- er? — O-pen — your dreams

28

f

to mylove and your heart to my words. I send you my thoughts — I

to mylove and your heart to my words. I send you my thoughts — I

to mylove and your heart to my words. I send you I send you my thoughts

mf

32

send you my thoughts the air__ be-tween us is lad-en, __ is lad-en, __ My

send you my thoughts the air__ be-tween us is lad-en, __ is lad-en, __ My

— I send you my thoughts the air__ be-tween us is lad-en, __ is lad-en, __ My

p

f

36

thoughts fly in at your win-dow, __ a flock of wild birds. *pp* *morendo*

thoughts fly in at your win-dow, __ a flock of wild birds. *pp* *morendo*

thoughts fly in at your win-dow, __ a flock of wild birds. *pp* *morendo*

p

III. Moonlight

Reflective ♩ = 76

mp
It will not hurt me when

mp
It will not hurt me when

Reflective ♩ = 76
flowing 3
p

7

I am old, _____ A runn - ing tide _____ where moon - light burned Will not

I am old, _____ A runn - ing tide _____ where moon - light burned Will not

13

sting me _____ like sil - ver snakes; The years will make me sad and

sting me _____ like sil - ver snakes; The years will make me sad and

19

cold, It is the happy heart that breaks. heart that breaks.

cold, It is the happy heart that breaks.

25

f warm
The heart asks more than life can give,

f warm
The heart asks more than life can give,

f warm
The heart asks more than life can give,

32

When that is learned, then all is learned; The waves break fold on jew-eled fold,

When that is learned, then all is learned; The waves break fold on jew-eled fold,

When that is learned, then all is learned; The waves break fold on jew-eled fold,

40

mf But beau-ty it - self is fu- gi - tive, _____ *p* It

mf But beau-ty it - self is fu- gi - tive, _____ *p* It

mf But beau-ty it - self is fu- gi - tive, _____ *p* It

mp *p*

48

mp will not hurt me It will not hurt me *mf* It will not hurt

mp will not hurt me It will not hurt me *mf* It will not hurt

mp will not hurt me It will not hurt me *mf* It will not hurt

mp *mf*

53

f me _____ when I am old, _____

f me _____ when I am old, _____

f me _____ when I am old, _____

f *poco rit.*

IV. Peace

Tranquil ♩. = 96

p Peace flows in - to me. As the
p Peace flows in - to me. As the
p Peace flows in - to me. As the

Tranquil ♩. = 96

sotto voce

p *mf*

4
 tide to the pool by the shore; It is
 tide to the pool by the shore; It is
 tide to the pool by the shore; It is
p *mf*

7
mf mine for - e - ver - more, for - e - ver - more, It ebbs not
mf mine for - e - ver - more, for - e - ver - more, It ebbs not
mf mine for - e - ver - more, for - e - ver - more, It ebbs not

11

f radiant

back like the sea. _____ like the sea. _____ I am the pool of

f radiant

back like the sea. _____ like the sea. _____ I am the pool of

f radiant

back like the sea. _____ like the sea. _____ I am the pool of

f

15

blue _____ That wor - ships _____ the viv - id sky; _____

blue _____ That wor - ships _____ the viv - id sky; _____

blue _____ That wor - ships _____ the viv - id sky; _____

18

I am the pool of blue _____ That wor - ships _____ the viv - id sky; _____

I am the pool of blue _____ That wor - ships _____ the viv - id - sky; viv - id

I am the pool of blue _____ That wor - ships _____ the viv - id sky; _____

22

mf

My hopes were hea - ven high, They are

sky; My hopes were hea - ven high, They are

My hopes were hea - ven high, They are

25

all ful filled in you. I am the pool of

all ful filled in you. I am the pool of

all ful filled in you. I am the pool of

28

f

gold When sun - set burns and dies,

gold When sun - set burns and dies and dies,

gold When sun - set burns and dies and

f

31

f You are my deep-en - ing skies, _____

f You are my deep-en - ing skies, _____

f dies, You are my deep-en - ing skies, _____

ff

35

mp Give me your

mp Give me your

mp Give me your

espress. *mf* Give me your *Slower* $\text{♩} = 76$ *p*

39

stars _____ Give me your

stars _____ Give me your

stars _____ Give me your

41

stars _____ to hold.

stars _____ to _____ hold.

stars _____ to hold.

V. Tonight

Jubilant ♩ = 138

f

The moon is a curv-ing flower of gold, _____ The

The moon is a curv-ing flower of gold, _____ The

The moon is a curv-ing flower of gold, _____ The

Jubilant ♩ = 138

mp _____ *f*

4

sky is still _____ and blue; is still and blue; The moon was made for the

sky is still _____ and blue; is still and blue; The moon was made for the

sky is still _____ and blue; is still and blue; The moon was made for the

7 *poco rit.* **Slower** ♩ = 92 *solo*

sky ___ to ___ hold, ___ was made And I ___ for ___

sky to hold, was made ___ for the sky ___ to hold, ___ to

sky to hold, was made ___ for the sky ___ to hold, ___ to

pizz. *poco rit.* **Slower** ♩ = 92 *arco*

p

10 *tutti (div) cantabile*

you; And I ___ for ___ you; And I for you; I for you; ___

hold, ___ for you; And I for you; I for you; ___

hold, ___ for you; And I for you; I for you; ___

cantabile

13 **Tempo I** ♩ = 138

p *f* The moon is a ___ flower ___ with-out a

p *f* The moon is a ___ flower ___ with-out a

p *f* The moon is a ___ flower ___ with-out a

Tempo I ♩ = 138

p *mp* *f*

16

stem, _____ The sky ___ is___ lu - mi - nous is___ lu - mi - nous; E -

stem, _____ The sky is lu - mi - nous is lu - mi - nous; E -

stem, _____ The sky is lu - mi - nous is lu - mi - nous; E -

♩ = 92

19 *cantabile*
div

ter - ni - ty was made for them, for them, To - night for

cantabile ter - ni - ty was made for them, To - night for

cantabile ter - ni - ty was made for them, To - night for

21

us. *p* E - ter - ni - ty was made *mf* for them, *mf* To - night for us. *f*

us. *p* E - ter - ni - ty was made *mf* for them, *mf* To - night for us. *f*

us. *p* E - ter - ni - ty was made *mf* for them, *mf* To - night for us. *f*

us. E - ter - ni - ty was made for them, To - night for us.

ff *p* *f*