

Be for me the earth
Jones

SATB divisi, unaccompanied

HL00155961
WW1584
\$2.45



BE FOR ME THE EARTH

Nathan Jones

A M A N D A
Q U I S T
C H O R A L
S E R I E S



About the Work

Few connections are as lasting as those made in the community of a choir. I had the opportunity to sing with Amanda Quist during the summer of 2009, and I found in her a kindred musical spirit. As a composer, I have always sought to foster these relationships and got an opportunity to work with Amanda when she accepted a position at Westminster Choir College.

I wrote *Be for me the earth*, to celebrate Amanda's first year at Westminster. Sara Teasdale's beautiful and lyrical poetry often speaks of emotions in all-consuming metaphors. This poem is no exception, and I set it in a melodic and lush texture highlighting the best parts of every vocal section. The conductor should take note of punctuation when making decisions regarding breathing and pacing and perform the piece with flexibility and expression.

-Nathan Jones

Be for me the earth

*I am the still rain falling,
Too tired for singing mirth –
Oh, be the green fields calling,
Oh, be for me the earth!*

*I am the brown bird pining
To leave the nest and fly –
Oh, be the fresh cloud shining,
Oh, be for me the sky!*

-Sara Teasdale (1884-1933)

About the Composer

Oklahoman Nathan Jones is a composer of art music published by Walton Music, GIA Publications, Southern Music Company, and G. Schirmer. A devoted admirer of the beauty and deep emotional connection of the human voice, Nathan enjoys working with poetry. His choral music has been performed in Europe, Southeast Asia, and throughout the United States.

The American Record Guide has described his music as a "...feast of succulent modern harmonies." Frequently commissioned by choirs and wind ensembles of all abilities, Nathan's style is earnest, melodic, and defined by elegant simplicity. His choral work, *I would live in your love*, was recorded by The Westminster Choir under the direction of Joe Miller and is commercially available.

Duration: Approx. 3:30

for Dr. Amanda Quist in celebration of her first year at Westminster Choir College

Be for me the earth

SSATBB, unaccompanied

SARA TEASDALE (1884-1933)

NATHAN JONES (b. 1983)

Legato, with freedom (♩ = 66-72)

mp

Soprano 1

I am the still rain fall - ing, Too tired —

Soprano 2

I am the still rain fall - ing, — Too tired —

Alto

I am the still rain fall - ing, — Too tired —

Tenor

8

Bass 1

Bass 2

Legato, with freedom (♩ = 66-72)

Piano
(for
rehearsal
only)

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The musical score is written for a song with vocal and piano accompaniment. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and a 3/4 time signature. The first measure is marked with a '5' above the staff. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some measures containing rests. The lyrics are: '— for sing - ing, sing - ing mirth - Oh, be the green fields'. The piano part consists of a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The score is divided into systems, with the first system containing three staves (vocal, piano, and piano) and the second system containing three staves (vocal, piano, and piano). The piano part is marked with a 'p' (piano) dynamic. The score ends with a double bar line.

— for sing - ing, sing - ing mirth - Oh, be the green fields

— for sing - ing mirth - Oh, be the green fields

— for sing - ing mirth - Oh, be the green fields

Oh, be the green fields

Oh, be the green fields

Oh, be the green fields

[illegible]

[illegible]

17 *mp*

for me the earth!

mp

for me the earth!

mp

for me the earth!

mp *p*

for me the earth! I am the brown bird

mp *p*

for me the earth! I am the brown bird

mp *p*

for me the earth! I am the brown bird

22

mf *cresc.*

and fly, _____

mf

and fly, _____ and

mp *mf*

the nest _____ and fly, and

mp *mf*

pin - ing To leave _____ the nest, _____ the nest and fly, and

mp *mf*

pin - ing _____ To leave _____ the nest _____ and fly, _____ and

mp *mf*

pin - ing _____ To leave _____ the nest _____ and fly, and

26 *accel.* *Moving forward (♩ = 100)*

f

fly, _____ and fly— Oh, be for me the

cresc. *f*

fly, _____ and fly, _____ and fly— Oh, be for me the

cresc. *f*

fly, _____ and fly, _____ and fly, _____ and fly— Oh, be for me the

cresc. *f*

fly, _____ and fly, _____ and fly— Oh, be for me the

cresc. *f*

fly, _____ and fly, _____ and fly— Oh, be for me the

cresc. *f*

fly, _____ and fly, _____ and fly, _____ and fly— Oh, be for me the

accel. *Moving forward (♩ = 100)*

rit.

Broadly (♩ = 72-80)

31

fresh cloud shin-ing, the fresh cloud shin-ing, Oh, be for

fresh cloud shin-ing, fresh cloud shin-ing, Oh, be for

fresh cloud shin-ing, fresh cloud shin-ing, Oh, be for

fresh cloud shin-ing, the fresh cloud shin-ing, Oh, be for

fresh cloud shin-ing, fresh cloud shin-ing, Oh, be for

fresh cloud shin-ing, fresh cloud shin-ing, Oh, be for

rit.

Broadly (♩ = 72-80)

36

me the sky! _____ Oh, be for me the sky!

me the sky! _____ Oh, be for me the sky!

me the sky! _____ Oh, be for me _____ the sky!

me the sky! _____ Oh, be for me _____ the _____ sky!

me the sky! _____ Oh, be for me _____ the _____ sky!

me the sky! _____ Oh, be for me the sky!

me the sky! _____ Oh, be for me the sky!

Shimmering, slower (♩ = 60-66) rall.

41 *p* *pp*

Oh, — be for me the sky, the sky, for me the sky!

p *pp*

Oh, — be for me the sky, the sky, for me the sky!

p *pp*

Oh, — be for me the sky, the sky, for me the sky!

p *pp*

Oh, — be for me the sky, the sky, for me the sky!

p *pp*

Oh, — be for me the sky, the sky, for me the sky!

Shimmering, slower (♩ = 60-66) rall.

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