

For the Pacifica Choirs

Sarah Riskind

Looking for a Sunset Bird in Winter

for SA chorus, violin, and piano

The west was getting out of gold,
The breath of air had died of cold,
When shoeing home across the white,
I thought I saw a bird alight.

In summer when I passed the place
I had to stop and lift my face;
A bird with an angelic gift
Was singing in it sweet and swift.

No bird was singing in it now.
A single leaf was on a bough,
And that was all there was to see
In going twice around the tree.

From my advantage on a hill
I judged that such a crystal chill
Was only adding frost to snow
As gilt to gold that wouldn't show.

A brush had left a crooked stroke
Of what was either cloud or smoke
From north to south across the blue;
A piercing little star was through.

- Robert Frost

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Looking for a Sunset Bird in Winter

for SA chorus, violin, and piano

Robert Frost
from *New Hampshire* (1923)

Sarah Riskind (b. 1987)

Freely, approx. ♩ = 66

Violin

Soprano

Alto

Piano

f *subp* *ad lib.*

The

The

A A Tempo ♩ = 66

Vln.

S.

A.

west... was get-ting out of... gold, The breath of air had died of cold, When

west... was get-ting out of... gold, The breath of air had died of cold, When

A A Tempo ♩ = 66

Pno.

mf

11

Vln.

S.

A.

Pno.

shoe-ing home— ac-ross the white, I thought I saw a bird a - light. In

shoe-ing home— ac-ross the white, I thought I saw a bird a - light In

mf

mf

mf

15

Vln.

S.

A.

Pno.

sum-mer when I passed the place I had to stop and lift my face; A bird with an an-

sum-mer when I passed the place I had to stop and lift my face; a bird with an an-

mp

mf

f

ff

f

ff

f

ff

19

Vln. *mf*

S. *sempre f*
ge - lic gift Was sing - ing in it sweet and swift.

A. *sempre f*
ge - lic gift Was sing - ing in it sweet and swift.

Pno. *mf*

C

22

Vln. *f*

S.

A.

Pno. *f*

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39

Vln.

S.

A.

Pno.

tutti mp

From my ad - van-tage on a hill I judged that such a crys-tal chill

ooh ooh

43

Vln.

S.

A.

Pno.

mf

Was on-ly add-ing frost to snow As gilt to gold that would - n't show. A

mf

mp

47 **F**

Vln. *mp cresc. poco a poco* *mf*

S. *cresc. poco a poco* *f*

A. *cresc. poco a poco* *f*

brush had left a croo - ked stroke Of what was either cloud or smoke From north to

brush had left a croo - ked stroke Of what was either cloud or smoke From north to

Pno. *cresc. poco a poco* *f*

51 **F**

Vln. *f*

S. *p*

A. *p*

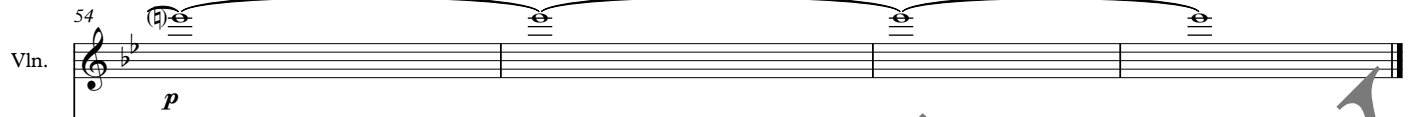
south ac - ross the blue; A pier - cing lit - tle star was

south ac - ross e blue; A pier - cing lit - tle star was

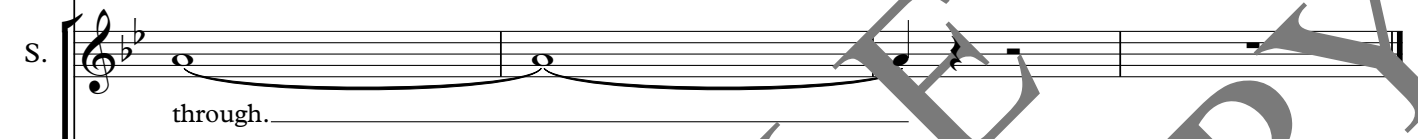
Pno. *rit.*

A tempo

Vln. ⁵⁴ *p*



S. through..



A. through..



A tempo

Pno. *p*



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