

PAUL WINCHESTER

MOURNING
POEM

SATB chorus with Piano

“When you are sorrowful look again in your heart, and you shall see that in truth you are weeping for that which has been your delight.”

- Khalil Gibran, *On Joy and Sorrow*

Composer's Note

The poem from which the text of this piece is derived was simply titled “Morning Poem 41” and was written by poet Amy Filipczak in what she knew was the final year of her life. Facing a terminal diagnosis, Amy, with encouragement from her husband, decided to express herself through verse and amassed a small volume of work of which this poem is one excerpt.

Knowing the context in which these words were written transforms them from a simple reflection on the beauty of a sunny winter day to a heartbreaking ode to the simple joy of a day spent with family and the mourning for the inevitable loss of that joy. We are all faced with that dichotomy of joy and sorrow, even if not with the same immediacy as Amy. However, like Amy, we can choose to live into the joy instead of the despair; to focus on seeing the sun, rather than the shadows it creates.

Composed for and dedicated to Mark J. Brekke
and the 2015-2016 UUCM Choir in memory of
Amy Filipczak, October 14, 1959 – June 29, 2015

MOURNING POEM

Amy Filipczak

Paul Winchester

Melancholy, lilting ♩ = 116

The musical score is arranged in systems. The first system shows the Piano introduction with a treble and bass clef, a 3/4 time signature, and a dynamic marking of *p*. The tempo is marked as 'Melancholy, lilting' with a quarter note equal to 116 beats. The second system begins with a vocal entry at measure 7, marked with a *p* dynamic. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) all sing the same lyrics: 'Here is sun after so'. The piano accompaniment continues with a *pp* dynamic. The score includes various time signatures (3/4, 5/4) and dynamic markings (*p*, *mp*, *pp*) throughout.

Piano

p

Ped. ad lib.
except where shown

7

S *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

Here is sun after so

A *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

Here is sun after so

T *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

Here is sun after so

B *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

Here is sun after so

Pno. *pp*

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29 *mp*

S We are off _____ to

A *mp*
We are off _____ to

T *mp*
We are off to

B

Pno. *p*

36 *p*

S make _____ snow an - gels. _____ To

A make _____ snow an - gels. _____

T make _____ snow _____ an - gels.

B

Pno. *mp*

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52

S
sha-dows on the snow.

A
blue sha - - - dows.

T
sha - dows on the snow.

B
blue sha - dows on the snow.

Pno.

57

S
Here is sun af - ter so long.

A
Here is sun af - ter so long And here

T
Here is sun af - ter so long. And here

B
Here is sun af - ter so long. And here

Pno.

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81

S

A

T

B

Pno.

p

we will hang our sha - dows up.

p

So when the

we will hang our sha - dows up.

p

88

S

A

T

B

Pno.

p *mp* *p*

So when the next gray day comes we can take our

mp

next gray day comes

p

we can take our

pp *p*

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rit.

109

S
a - lone here; a -

A
a - lone here; a -

T
a - lone here; a -

B
a - lone here; a -

Pno.
p *p* *mp*

* *Ped.* *

Slower ♩ = 100

116

S
lone Here is sun af - ter so

A
lone Here is sun

T
lone Here is sun

B
lone Here is sun

Pno.
pp

p poco cresc. *pp* *solo p*

Ped. ad lib.

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140 *p*

S Here is sun. Here is

A *p* Here is sun. Here is

T *p* Here is sun. Here is

B *p* Here is sun. Here is

Pno. *pp*

Red. *

146 *pp*

S sun. Here is sun.

A *pp* sun. Here is sun.

T *pp* sun. Here is sun.

B *pp* sun. Here is sun.

Pno. *pp*

Red. * *Red.* * *Red.* *