

DT0077 | TRUMBORE | \$2.35
RETURNING | SSAA CHORUS WITH AUDIENCE REFRAIN

RETURNING

SSAA Chorus with audience refrain
Text by Laura Foley



RETURNING

I have learned this:
if you stay in one place long enough
they will return to you.

REFRAIN*

*They will return to you,
they will return to you,
they will return.*

The geese you saw leaving,
their feet rising into dark bodies.
They will return.

[REFRAIN]

All you need to do is watch the sun each day
as it tumbles through the sky
and they will come again.

[REFRAIN]

They will return, floating toward you,
their damp bodies
still trembling from flight.

Laura Foley

*The refrain is to be sung twice:
first by the chorus, with harmony, then joined in by the audience (see melody below).
(The refrain is not part of Laura Foley's original poem.)

REFRAIN:

Audience

They will re - turn to you, they will re - turn to you, they will re - turn.



Laura Foley's poem *Returning* describes the return of wild geese each year. Just as the birds of the poem return again, several elements within the piece return: the chorus, joined by the audience, sings a simple recurring refrain. The melody of the refrain concludes on an A, the starting note of the piece, and as the birds return home at the end of the piece, the final note of *Returning* comes to rest on the same A as well.

*For Magpies & Ravens' "Lineage" program
in honor of all the composers who have influenced our lives*

Returning

for SSAA Chorus a cappella
with audience refrain

Text by
Laura Foley

Music by
Dale Trumbore

Tenderly; $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 80$

The musical score consists of six staves. From top to bottom: 1) Audience (empty staff), 2) SOPRANO 1 (empty staff), 3) SOPRANO 2 (empty staff), 4) ALTO 1 (empty staff), 5) ALTO 2 (empty staff), and 6) Piano (empty staff). The vocal parts begin with lyrics starting from the third measure. The piano part begins in the fourth measure.

Audience

SOPRANO 1

SOPRANO 2

I have learned this:

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

I have learned this; if you

Piano

Tenderly; $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 80$

Returning

2

3

S. *p* if you stay in one place long e - nough.

S. *p* if you stay.

A. *p* if you stay.

A. *mp* stay, If you

Pno. 3

9

S. *p* if you stay,

S. *pp* if you stay,

A. *pp* if you stay,

A. *p* stay, if you

Pno. 9

Returning

4

23

S. they will re - turn to you, they will re - turn to you,

S. they will re - turn to you, they will re - turn to you, they will re -

A. re - turn, re - turn, re -

A. re - turn, re - turn, re -

Pno.

23

28

Aud. *) They will re - turn to you, they will re - turn to you,

S. re - turn. They will re - turn to you, they will re - turn to you,

S. turn. They will re - turn to you, they will re - turn to you,

A. turn. They will re - turn, re - turn,

A. turn. They will re - turn, re - turn,

Pno.

*The conductor should turn to cue the audience at each of their three entrances.

Returning

rit.

5

33

Aud. they will re - turn.

S. re - turn, _____

S. they will re - turn, _____

A. they will re - turn, re - turn, re - turn.

A. re - turn, re - turn, rit.

33

Pno.

38 Tempo I

p

S. The geese you saw leav-ing, their feet ris - ing in - to dark

S. The geese you saw leav-ing, their feet ris - ing

A. The geese you saw leav-ing, their feet ris - ing in - to dark

A. The geese you saw leav-ing, their feet ris - ing

pno.

38 **Tempo I**

Returning

7

54

Aud.

S.

S.

A.

A.

Pno.

They will re - turn to you, they will re - turn to you,

They will re - turn to you, they will re - turn to you,

— They will re - turn to you, they will re - turn to you,

turn. They will re - turn, re - turn,

— They will re - turn, re - turn,

54

58

Aud.

S.

S.

A.

A.

Pno.

they will re - turn,

re - turn, re - turn.

they will re - turn, re - turn, re - turn.

they will re - turn, re - turn,

re - turn, rit.

58

A little faster

S. *pp* All you need to do is watch the sun each day as it tumb-les through the sky

S. *pp* All you need to do is watch the sun each day as it tumb-les through the

A. *pp* All you need to do is watch the sun each day as it tumb-les through the sky

A. *pp* All you need to do is watch the sun each day as it tumb-les through the sky as it

Pno.

63 **A little faster**

rit. **Slower** *(Optional solo)* **accel.**

S. the sky, the sky and they will come a gain,

S. sky the sky the sky they will come a -

A. tum-bles through the sky, they will come a -

A. tum-bles through the sky, they will come a -

Pno.

68 **rit.** **Slower** **accel.**

Returning

10

Aud.

82

They will re - turn to you, They will re - turn,

S.

turn, _____ re - turn, _____ float - ing

S.

turn, _____ re - turn, They will re - turn, float - ing

A.

They will re - turn to you, They will re - turn,

A.

They will re - turn to you, re - turn,

Pno.

82

Slow; $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 60$

p

S.

toward you, their damp bo - dies still trem - bling, from

S.

toward you, their damp bo - dies still trem - bling, from

A.

their damp bo - dies still trem - bling,

A.

their damp bo - dies still trem - bling,

Pno.

86

Slow; $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 60$

Returning

11

90

S. flight, from flight, rit.

S. flight, from flight,

A. - if you stay,

A. (t) if you stay, if you stay, rit.

Pno. 90

95 Slowly p

S. from flight.

S. from flight.

A. they will re - turn. pp

A. re - turn. pp

Pno. 95 Slowly