

In the Long Grass

For SATB unaccompanied

David von Kampen

Text by Willa Cather (1873-1947)
From *O Pioneers!*
Duration: c. 3'



Text by Willa Cather:

*She had never known before
how much the country meant to her.
The chirping of the insects
down in the long grass
had been like the sweetest music.
She had felt as if her heart were hiding
down there, somewhere,
with the quail and the plover
and all the little wild things
that crooned or buzzed in the sun.
Under the long shaggy ridges,
she felt the future stirring.*

David von Kampen (b. 1986) is a composer from Lincoln, Nebraska. David's music spans a wide variety of genres and styles, including jazz, choral music, hymnody and liturgy, solo voice, chamber music, and musical theater.

David is a six-time Downbeat Award winner in graduate-level jazz writing categories, a three-time winner of the Vancouver Chamber Choir Young Composers Competition, and was named the MTNA Distinguished Composer of the Year for his song cycle "Under the Silver and Home Again." He has been among ten winners of the ORTUS International New Music Competition, the recipient of an ASCAP Young Jazz Composer award, winner of the San Francisco Choral Artists New Voices Project, winner of the National Band Association's Young Jazz Composers Competition, and received Honorable Mention in the New York Youth Symphony First Music Commissions. "Puddin' and the Grumble," David's original musical with playwright Becky Boesen, was one of seven finalists for the Richard Rodgers award.

David has over 60 published choral and instrumental compositions and arrangements. His music has been performed by the KHORIKOS Vocal Ensemble, the L.A. Choral Lab, KC VITAs Chamber Choir, the Taiwan Youth Festival Chorus, San Francisco Choral Artists, the U.S. Army Blues Jazz Ensemble, the Vancouver Chamber Choir, and by collegiate, all-state, high school, and church ensembles throughout the United States and internationally.

Visit www.DavidvonKampen.com for more.

for Jackson Thomas and the KC VITAs Chamber Choir

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Willa Cather (1873-1947)
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Freely ♩ = c. 68

mp solo, section or SA

Soprano Alto

She had nev - er known _____ be - fore _____ *mp* how much the

Tenor Bass

mp solo, section or TB

She had nev - er known _____ be - fore _____

5

SA

coun - try meant _____ to her. _____ *mf* The

TB

_____ how much the coun - try _____ meant to her.

8

S

(melody) *p* chirp - ing of _____ the in - sects, the in - sects down in the long

A

(behind sopranos) *p* chirp - ing of _____ the in - sects, the in - sects down in the long

T

mp *p* The chirp - ing of the in - sects, the in - sects down in the long

B

mp *p* The chirp - ing of the in - sects, the in - sects down in the long

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12 *mp* *p* *mp* the sweet - - - est


SA 

grass had been like the sweet-est mu - sic, the sweet - est

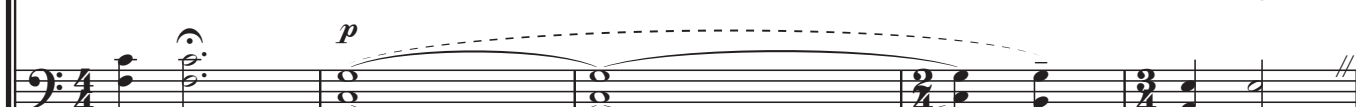
TB 

mp *p* *mp*

17 (18) A little faster ♩ = c. 74 *p*

SA 

mu - sic. She had felt as if _____ her heart was hid - ing,

TB 

p Hmm, _____ was hid - ing,

22 *mf* some - where, _____ with the quail and the plov - er* and


SA 

down there, down _____ there, _____ some - where, _____


TB 

mf * rhymes with "over"

26 all the lit-tle wild things _____ that crooned or buzzed _____ in the sun.

SA 

all the wild things that crooned or buzzed _____ in the sun.

TB 

mp *p*

31

mp *mp* *pp*

S Un - der the long shag - gy ridg - es, she _____ felt the

mp *mp* *pp*

A Un - der the long shag - gy ridg - es, she felt the fu - ture,

mp *mp* *pp*

T Un - der _____ the shag - gy ridg - es, she felt the fu - ture,

mp *mp* *pp*

B Un - der shag - gy ridg - es, she felt the fu - ture,

rit.-----

36

mp *f* *mf*

S fu - ture, stir - ring, she felt the fu - ture stir - ring,

mp *f* *mf*

A stir - ring, she felt the fu - ture, fu - ture stir - ring,

mp *f* *mf*

T stir - ring, she felt the fu - ture, fu - ture stir - ring,

mp *f* *mf*

B stir - ring, she felt the fu - ture, fu - ture stir - ring,

PERUSAL

41 *a tempo*

rit. ----- A little slower

SA *mp* stir - ring, stir - ring, stir - ring, stir - - - ring* She had

TB *mp* stir - ring, stir - ring, stir - ring, stir - - - ring* *p*

* close to "ng"

rit. -----

46 nev-er known be - fore

SA how much the coun - try meant to her.

TB how much the coun - try meant to her.

PERUSAL