

I Thread the Stars
SATB, piano 4-hands

Timothy C. Takach

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I Thread the Stars

for SATB choir and piano 4-hands

Commissioned by the Foundation for Eden Prairie Schools for the Eden Prairie School District Secondary Choirs.
World Premiere January 13, 2014



Timothy C Takach.com

Text:

I am the flash of sun on water.
I am the clash of battle swords.
I am the teeth in the sea-shark's mouth.
I am the blood of wild beasts.
I am the fire in the witch's hearth.
I am the evening sky ablaze—
The red of serpents' tongues,
The black of deepest night.
I am a mare that knows no reins.

I thread the stars across the sky.
I am the kiss of lovers' lips.
I am the mortar and the stone.
I am the song of my homeland.

I am the wind on the sea
I am the bow of every ship.
I am the ocean waves.
I am the foam upon the sea.
I am a lake on a plain.
I am the green of the fairest hill.
I am dewdrop, a tear of the sun.
I am a lily on a still pond.
I am the heir of harmony.
I am a word of skill.
I am the silence of things secret.

I am the roar of the sea.
I am a bull of seven fights.
I am a hawk on a cliff.
I rove the hills, a ravaging boar.
I am lightning that blasts the trees.
I am thunder on the mountains.
I am a God that fashions fire for a head.
I am a dragon that eats the sky.

I thread the stars across the sky.
I am the kiss of lovers' lips.
I am the mortar and the stone.
I am the song of my homeland.

-from "Amergin and Cessair," Traditional
-adapted by Michael Meade and Erica Helm Meade
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for SATB choir and piano 4 hands

Traditional, trans. Michael Meade and Erica Helm Meade

Timothy C. Takach

$\text{♩} = 112$

Piano 1

Piano 2

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7

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

7

(8^{va})

8^{va}

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12 *mf*

S I am the flash of sun on wa - ter. I am the clash of bat - tle swords.

A *mf* I am the flash of sun on wa - ter. I am the clash of bat - tle swords.

T *mf* I am the flash of sun on wa - ter. I am the clash of bat - tle swords.

B *mf* I am the flash of sun on wa - ter. I am the clash of bat - tle swords.

Pno. 1 *mf*

Pno. 2 *mf*

12 (8va) 2

14 *f*

S I am the teeth in the sea-shark's mouth. I am the blood of wild beasts.

A *f* I am the teeth in the sea-shark's mouth. I am the blood of wild beasts.

T *f* I am the teeth in the sea-shark's mouth. I am the blood of wild beasts.

B *f* I am the teeth in the sea-shark's mouth. I am the blood of wild beasts.

Pno. 1 *f*

Pno. 2 *f*

14 (8va) 2

12

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17

Pno. 1

f

mp

mf

17

Pno. 2

f

mf

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Pno. 1

Pno. 2

mf

f

mf

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26 *ritard* $\text{♩} = 96$

S *mf*
I am the fire _____ in the witch's hearth. I am the

A *mf*
I am the fire _____ in the witch's hearth. I am the

Pno. 1 *mp* *p* *8va*

Pno. 2 *mp*

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30 *mp* *f*

S eve - ning sky a - blaze

A eve - ning sky a - blaze

T *mp* (but intense)

B *mp* (but intense) The red of ser - pents' tongues,

Pno. 1 *mf* *p* *mp*

Pno. 2 *mf* *mp* *p*

30 (8va) *mf* *p* *mp*

30 *mf* *mp* *p*

34 Pedal sim. Timothy C Takach.com

S *mp*

A *mp*

T *f* *mp* *mf* *mp*

B *f* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Pno. 1 *mf* *mp*

Pno. 2 *f* *mp* *mp*

34 (8va) *mf* *mp*

34 *f* *mp* *mp*

(8vb)

38 *f* $\text{♩} = 84$

S
I am a mare that knows no reins.

A
I am a mare that knows no reins. _____

T
I am a mare that knows no reins.

B
I am a mare that knows no reins.

Pno. 1
38 *f* *mp* 8^{va}

Pno. 2
38 *f* *mp* warmly R.H. R.H. L.H. L.H.

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42

S *mf* I thread the stars a - cross the

A *mf* I thread the stars a - cross the

T *mf* I thread the stars a - cross the

B *mf* I thread the stars a - cross the

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

Pedal sim.

45

S *p* sky. I am the kiss of lov - ers' lips. I am the

A *p* sky. I am the kiss of lov - ers' lips. I am the

T *p* sky. I am the kiss of lov - ers' lips. I am the

B *p* sky. I am the kiss of lov - ers' lips. I am the

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

6

48

S mor - tar and the stone. I am the song of my

A mor - tar and the stone. I am the song of my

T mor - tar and the stone. I am the song of my

B mor - tar and the stone. I am the song of my

Pno. 1 *cresc.*

Pno. 2 *cresc.*

Pedal sim.

51

S *f* home - land.

A *f* home - land.

T *f* home - land.

B *f* home - land.

Pno. 1 *f* *mp*

Pno. 2 *f* *mf* *mp*

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$\text{♩} = 80$

54 (8va) *p*

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

59 *mp*

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

pp *p*

Pedal sim.

64 *mp* lyrical *mf*

S

A

T

B

I am the wind on the sea I am the bow

64 *mp* *p* *mp*

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

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68

S — of eve - ry ship. I am the o - cean waves. *mp* *mf*

A — of eve - ry ship. I am the o - cean waves. *mp* *mf*

T — of eve - ry ship. I am the o - cean waves. *mp* *mf*

B — of eve - ry ship. I am the o - cean waves. *mp* *mf*

Pno. 1 *p* *mf* 3

Pno. 2 *p* *mf*

73

S I am the foam up-on the sea. I am a *p*

A I am the foam up-on the sea. I am a *p*

T I am the foam up-on the sea. I am a *p*

B I am the foam up-on the sea. I am a *p*

Pno. 1 *p* 8va

Pno. 2 *p* 3 3 3

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78

S lake on a plain. I am the green of the fair-est hill. Mm... *mp* *p* *pp*

A lake on a plain. I am the green of the fair-est hill. I am *mp* *p* *mp*

T lake on a plain. I am the green of the fair-est hill. I am *mp* *p* *pp*

B lake on a plain. I am the green of the fair-est hill. Mm... *mp* *p* *pp*

(8va)-----

Pno. 1 78 (8va)-----

Pno. 2 78

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82

S I am a lil-y on a still pond. *mf* *p*

A dew-drop, a tear of the sun. I am a lil-y on a still pond. *mf* *p*

T dew-drop, a tear of the sun. I am a lil-y on a still pond. *mf* *p*

B I am a lil-y on a still pond. *mf* *p*

(8va)-----

Pno. 1 82 (8va)-----

Pno. 2 82

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86

S I am the heir of har - mon - y. I am a word of

A I am the heir of har - mon - y. I am a word of

T I am the heir of har - mon - y. I am a word of

B I am the heir of har - mon - y. I am a word of

93

S skill. I am the si - lence of things se - cret.

A skill. I am the si - lence of things se - cret.

T skill. I am the si - lence of things se - cret.

B skill. I am the si - lence of things se - cret.

99

S

A

T

B

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

pp

pp

p

8^{va}

103

Pno. 1

mp

mf

103

Pno. 2

mp

mp

mp

mf

(8^{vb})

107

S

mf

I am the roar of the sea. I am a bull of sev - en fights.

A

mf

I am the roar of the sea. I am a bull of sev - en fights.

T

mf

I am the roar of the sea. I am a bull of sev - en fights.

B

mf

I am the roar of the sea. I am a bull of sev - en fights.

107

Pno. 1

mf

2

107

Pno. 2

mf

(8^{vb})

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109

S
I am a hawk — on a cliff. I rove the hills, a rav - en - ing boar.

A
I am a hawk on a cliff. I rove the hills, a rav - en - ing boar.

T
I am a hawk — on a cliff. I rove the hills, a rav - en - ing boar.

B
I am a hawk on a cliff. I rove the hills, a rav - en - ing boar.

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

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112

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

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116

Pno. 1

mf

f

mf

Pno. 2

f

mp

120

$\text{♩} = 96$

S

mf

I am light - ning that blasts the trees. I am thun - der on the moun -

A

mf

I am light - ning that blasts the trees. I am thun - der on the moun -

Pno. 1

p

mf

Pno. 2

mf

Pedal sim.

8va

124

S *f* tains.

A *f* tains.

T *mf* I am a God that fash - ions fire for a head.

B *mf*

Pno. 1 *mp* *mf*

Pno. 2 *mf* *mp*

124 (8va) (8vb)

127

S *p* I am the wind and the word and the kiss and the song and

A *p* I am the wind and the kiss and the song and

T *f* I am a drag-on that eats the sky.

B *gliss.*

Pno. 1 *mf* *f*

Pno. 2 *mf*

127 (8va) (8vb)

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130 *f*

S I thread the stars a - cross the sky. I thread the stars a - cross the

A I thread the stars a - cross the sky. I thread the stars a - cross the

T I thread the stars a - cross I am the wind and the word and the song and I thread the stars a - cross the

B I thread the stars a - cross I am the wind _____ and the song and I thread the stars a - cross the

Pno. 1 *f*

Pno. 2 *f*

133 *mp* *mf*

S sky. _____ I am the song of my home - land. _____ I am the song of my home - land. _____

A sky. _____ I am the song of my home - land. _____ I am the song of my home - land. _____

T sky. I thread the stars I am the song of my home - land. I am the song of my home - land. _____

B sky. I thread the stars I am the song of my home - land. I am the song of my home - land. _____

Pno. 1 *mp* *mf*

Pno. 2 *mp* *mf*

136 *f* *ff*

S I am the song of my home - land. I am the song! I am the song! I am the

A I am the song of my home - land. I am the song! I am the song! I am the

T I am the song of my home - land. I am the song! I am the song! I am the

B I am the song of my home - land. I am the song! I am the song! I am the

Pno. 1 *f* *ff*

Pno. 2 *f* *ff*

Pedal sim.

139 *fff*

S song! I am the song!

A song! I am the song!

T song! I am the song!

B song! I am the song!

Pno. 1 *fff*

Pno. 2 *fff*

139



Reviewed as “gorgeous” (Washington Post) and “stunning” (Lawrence Journal-World), the music of Timothy C. Takach has risen fast in the concert world. Applauded for his melodic lines and rich, intriguing harmonies, Takach has received commissions from the St. Olaf Band, Cantus, Pavia Winds, Lorelei Ensemble, VocalEssence, the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, The Rose Ensemble, and numerous other organizations. His compositions have been performed on A Prairie Home Companion, The Boston Pops holiday tour, multiple All-State and festival programs and at venues such as the Library of Congress, Kennedy Center and Royal Opera House Muscat. He is a co-creator of the theatrical production of All is Calm: the Christmas Truce of 1914, by Peter Rothstein.

Takach studied music composition at St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN, where he graduated with honors. He has frequent national work as a composer-in-residence, presenter, clinician and lecturer. He is a full-time composer and lives in Minneapolis with his wife and two sons.

Selected vocal works by Timothy C. Takach:

Mixed Voices

A Depth We Cannot Sound		SATB, vibraphone, marimba, large tom
A Worshipper and a Man		SATB a cappella
And I Saw		SATB div. a cappella
As the Sunflower Turns on Her God		SSAATBB div, Sop. solo, SSATB soli, a cappella
The Darkling Thrush	(earthsongs)	SATB, SAT soli, a cappella
Fragile		SATB, hand drum
Listen to the Apples		SATB div. a cappella
Neither Angels, Nor Demons, Nor Powers	(Graphite Publishing)	SSATBB a cappella
Nubes Oriebatur: the eruption of Vesuvius		SSATBB a cappella
One Boy Told Me		SATB, piano
Su Rahva Koda (The House of Your Kindred)		SSAATTBB a cappella
This Alien Landscape		SATB, crotales, suspended cymbal, bass drum
This Amazing Life		SA(T)B, piano
We Are Lost, We Are Lucky		SATB, piano
We Sing of Home (Finlandia)		SATB a cappella

Treble Voices

And I Saw		SSAA div. a cappella
Cassiopeia		SSA a cappella
Goodbye, Then		SSA choir, Bb clarinet, piano
Home on the Range (arr. American Folk Song)	(Graphite Publishing)	2-part treble, piano
Queen of the Range	(Graphite Publishing)	SA, piano
Serenade	(Graphite Publishing)	SSAA a cappella
The Streets of Laredo (arr. American Folk Song)	(Graphite Publishing)	Unison, TTB, piano
There is No Rose	(Lorelei Ensemble)	SSAA, SS soli, a cappella
Torn Map	(Graphite Publishing)	SA, piano
Twenty Questions		2-part treble, piano

Men's Voices

Empty		TB (opt. div), piano, opt. djembe
Goodbye, Then		TBB choir, Bb clarinet, piano
I Will Howl		TBB choir, piano or cello
Kin		TB, piano
Luceat Eis		TTTBB a cappella
Mad		TB, piano
Original Harmony	(Colla Voce)	TTBB a cappella
Rough Beast	(Jeremy D. Jones Male Choral Series)	TTBB, percussion
Salve Regina	(Graphite Publishing)	TBB semi-chorus, TTBB a cappella
Things I Didn't Know I Loved	(Graphite Publishing)	TTBB a cappella

Large Works

We Made a Grave For Him, And Her Smoke Rose Up Forever (ca. 10')		TTBB a cappella
The Longest Nights (ca. 21')		SATB, piano or string quartet
Where Beauty Comes From (ca. 16')		TBB, 2-part, SSAA, SATB; piano

