

JOAN SZYMKO

At the Spring Dawn

SSAA a cappella
setting of a poem
by
Angelina Weld Grimké

Commissioned by Peterborough Voices
for the Peterborough International Women's Choral Festival 2023.

At the Spring Dawn

Angelina Weld Grimké (1880-1958)

Joan Szymko

for preview only

Mm

p **mp**

Soprano

Alto

I watched the dawn, watched the dawn come.

Poco più mosso

mp

S1

S2

A1

A2

come. And the red sun shouldered his

come. And the red sun shouldered his

watched the spring dawn come. And the red sun shouldered his

Watched the spring dawn come. And the red sun shouldered his

Piano for rehearsal only

Poco più mosso

p

Pno.

12 *rit.* *pp*

S1 way — up through the grey, through the blue, Through the li-lac mists.

S2 way — up through the grey, through the blue, Through the li-lac mists.

A1 way — up through the grey, through the blue, Through the li-lac mists.

A2 way — up through the grey, through the blue, Through the li-lac mists.

Pno. *rit.* *pp*

poco accel.

16 **Tempo primo** *p* =64

S1 The qui - et of it!

S2 The qui - et of it!

A1 (hum)

A2 (hum)

poco accel.

16 **Tempo primo** *poco accel.* =64

Pno.

19 *mp* **rit.** *p* *mp*

S1 The good - ness of it! And

S2 The good - ness of it! And

A1 (hum) good-ness of it! And

A2 (hum) good-ness of it! And

Pno. 19 *mp* **rit.**

Tempo primo ♩ = ♩ throughout

23 *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

S1 one bird a - woke, sang, whirred a

S2 one bird du* du du du ee-u du du du du du ee-u du du du du

A1 one bird - woke, sang, whirred a

A2 one bird a - woke, sang, whirred a

Pno. 23 **Tempo primo** ♩ = ♩ throughout

* softly articulated "d"]

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33

S1 *p* *mp*
And I stretched my arms to the red-ness of the sun,

S2 *p* *mp*
ee-u oh And I stretched my arms to the red-ness of the sun,

A1 *p* *mp*
off. And I stretched my arms to the red-ness of the sun,

A2 *p* *mp*
off. And I stretched my arms to the red-ness of the sun,

Pno. *mp*

38 *accel.* *mf* $\text{♩} = 54$

S1 Stretched to my fin-ger tips, And I laughed

S2 Stretched to my fin-ger tips, And I laughed

A1 Stretched to my fin-ger tips, And I

A2 Stretched to my fin-ger tips, And I

Pno. *accel.* $\text{♩} = 54$

accel.

42

S1

S2

A1

A2

Pno.

And I laughed. And I laughed. And I

And I laughed. And I laughed. And I

laughed. And I laughed. And I laughed.

laughed. And I laughed. An I laughed. I

42

accel.

47

S1

S2

A1

A2

Pno.

laughed. I laughed, I laughed.

laughed. I laughed, I laughed.

laughed.

laughed. I laughed and laughed.

47

$\text{♩} = 60$

53

S1 It is good to be a - live,

S2 It is good to be a - live,

A1 Ah! It is good to be a - live, a - live,

A2 Ah! Ah! a live,

mf

Pno.

57

S1 good to be a - live, good to be a - live,

S2 good to love, good to love, It is

A1 good to be a - live, good to be a - live,

A2 good to love, good to love, It is

mp *mf* *mf* *mf*

Pno.

61

S1 a - live, good to love, At the dawn,

S2 good to be a - live, good to love, At the dawn,

A1 a - live, good to love, At the dawn, at the

A2 good to be a - live, good to love, At the dawn, at the

Pno.

Tempo primo

66

S1 At the dawn, At the spring dawn. At the spring dawn.

S2 At the dawn, At the spring dawn. At the spring dawn.

A1 dawn, At the spring dawn.

A2 dawn, spring dawn.

Pno.