

Little Blades of Grass
TTBB, a cappella

Timothy C. Takach

pdf download - \$1.60
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Little Blades of Grass

for TTBB a cappella choir

For the Lipscomb University Men's Choral Festival, Dr. Gary P. Wilson, conductor

Text:

In heaven,
Some little blades of grass
Stood before God.
“What did you do?”
Then all save one of the little blades
Began eagerly to relate
The merits of their lives.
This one stayed a small way behind,
Ashamed.
Presently, God said,
“And what did you do?”
The little blade answered, “Oh my Lord,
Memory is bitter to me,
For, if I did good deeds,
I know not of them.”
Then God, in all His splendor,
Arose from His throne.
“Oh, best little blade of grass!” He said.

- Stephen Crane



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.

Little Blades of Grass

Stephen Crane $\text{♩} = 92$

for TTBB a cappella

Timothy C. Takach

mp

Tenor 1
In heav - en, _____ Some lit - tle ___ blades of grass

mp

Tenor 2
In heav - en, _____ Some lit - tle ___ blades of grass

mp

Baritone
In heav - en, _____ Some lit - tle ___ blades of grass

mp

Bass
In heav - en, _____ Some lit - tle ___ blades of grass



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6

mf

T 1
Stood be-fore God. They stood be - fore God. Then

mf

T 2
Stood be-fore God. They stood be - fore God. "What did you do?" Then

p

B 1
Stood be-fore God. They stood be - fore God. "What did you do?" Then

p

B 2
Stood be-fore God. They stood be - fore God. "What did you do?" Then



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12

T 1
all save one of the lit - tle blades Be - gan ea - ger - ly to re -

T 2
all save one of the lit - tle blades Be - gan ea - ger - ly to re -

B 1
all save one of the lit - tle blades Be - gan ea - ger - ly to re -

B 2
all save one of the lit - tle blades Be - gan ea - ger - ly to re -

17

T 1
late The mer - its of their lives. This one stayed a

T 2
late The mer - its of their lives. This one stayed a

B 1
late The mer - its of their lives. This one stayed a

B 2
late The mer - its of their lives. This one stayed a

mp p

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22 *mp* *slight rit.* *p* *pp* *a tempo* *f*

T 1 small way be - hind, A - shamed. A - shamed. Pres - ent - ly, God

T 2 small way be - hind, A - shamed. A - shamed. Pres - ent - ly, God

B 1 small way be - hind, A - shamed. A - shamed. Pres - ent - ly, God

B 2 small way be - hind, A - shamed. A - shamed. Pres - ent - ly, God

27 *ff* *mp* *slower*

T 1 said, "And what did you do?" The lit - tle blade an - swered,

T 2 said, "And what did you do?" The lit - tle blade an - swered,

B 1 said, "And what did you do?"

B 2 said, "And what did you do?"

♩ = 108 **Lyrical**

32 *mf*

T 1
"Oh my Lord, Me-mo-ry is bit-ter to me, For, if I

T 2
"Oh my Lord, Me-mo-ry is bit-ter to me, For, if I

B 1
"Oh my Lord, Me-mo-ry is bit-ter to me, For, if I *mp*

B 2
"Oh my Lord, Me-mo-ry is bit-ter to me, For,

mf

39 *f* Timothy C Takach.com *p*

T 1
did good deeds, I know not of them." I know not of

T 2
did good deeds, I know not of them." I know not of

B 1
did good deeds, I know not of them." I know not of

B 2
I know For, I know not

f *p*

48 *mf*

T 1 them." if I did good deeds, if I did good deeds, _____

T 2 them." if I did good deeds, if I did good deeds, _____

B 1 them." if I did good deeds, if I did good deeds, _____

B 2 _____ if I did good deeds, if I did _____ good deeds, _____

mf

57 *mp*

T 1 _____ I know _____ not if I did good deeds,

T 2 _____ I know _____ not if I did good deeds,

B 1 _____ my Lord, _____ Lord, _____ did good deeds, _____

B 2 _____ my Lord, my Lord, _____ did good deeds, _____

mp

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ritard -----

65

T 1 *p* *pp*
I know not of them." I know not

T 2 *p* *pp*
I know not of them." I know not

B 1 *pp* *p* *pp*
know not of them." I know not

B 2 *pp* *p* *pp*
know not of them." I know not

73 $\text{♩} = 92$ *mf* Timothy C Takach.com

T 1 *mf*
Then God, in all His splen - dor,

T 2 *mf*
Then God, in all His splen - dor,

B 1 *mf* *mf*
Then God, in all His splen - dor, A -

B 2 *mf* *mp*
Then God, in all His splen - dor, A - rose

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78 *ritard* $\bullet = 88$

T 1 *f* *ff* *f*
A - rose A - rose from His throne. "Oh,

T 2 *mf* *f* *ff* *f*
A - rose A - rose A - rose from His throne. "Oh,

B 1 *f* *ff*
rose A - rose A - rose from His throne.

B 2 *f* *ff*
rose A - rose A - rose from His throne.

82 *ritard* *mp* Timothy C Takach.com

T 1 *mf* *mp*
best lit - tle blade of grass, best lit - tle blade of grass!"

T 2 *f* *mp*
best lit - tle blade" He said "best lit - tle blade of grass!"

B 1 *f* *mp*
best lit - tle blade of grass, best lit - tle blade of grass!"

B 2 *f* *mp*
best lit - tle blade of grass, best lit - tle blade of grass!"

An excerpt of "Empty" for TBB, piano, djembe

Empty / Timothy C. Takach

13 *mf*

T I want-ed to go _____ to heav-en. _____ What -

B I want-ed to go _____ to heav-en. _____ What -

13 *pp*

Sub

17

T ev - er I thought _____ I should lose, _____ I lost; what - ev - er the

B ev - er I thought _____ I should lose, _____ I lost; what - ev - er the

17 *mf*

sim. until marked

The percussion parts here are suggested rhythms for the djembe, but an experienced percussionist should feel free to play beyond what's on the page.

An excerpt of "Empty" for TBB, piano, djembe

Empty / Timothy C. Takach

21 *p*

T cost, I paid it. Noth - ing — was too much.

B cost, I paid it. Noth - ing — was too much.

21 *p*

26 *f*

T Noth - ing — was too much. Ah! —

B Noth - ing — was too much. *(B2 part is opt.)* Ah! —

26 *f*

Sub — — — — — *sim. until marked*

31

T — — — — — Ah! —

B — — — — — Ah! —

31

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
All the Beautiful Names		SATB a cappella
All Sisters and Brothers		SATB, 2 trumpets, organ
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
Epitaph		SATB, viola
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
Something There is Immortal		SSATBB a cappella
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
To Live Forever		SSATB a cappella
'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime (arr. Huron Carol)	(Graphite Publishing)	SATB a cappella
We Are Lost, We Are Lucky		SATB, piano

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 choir, piano
Serenade	(Graphite Publishing)	SSAA a cappella
There is No Rose	(Lorelei Ensemble)	SSAA, SS soli, a cappella
The Streets of Laredo (arr. American Folk Song)	(Graphite Publishing)	Unison, TTB, piano
Torn Map	(Graphite Publishing)	2-part treble, piano

Men's Voices

All Natures, Even Mine		TTTBB a cappella
Empty		TB (opt. div), piano, opt. djembe
Go		TB, hand drum, wood block or clapping
Goodbye, Then		TBB choir, Bb clarinet, piano
I Will Howl		TBB choir, piano or cello
It Is Not the Fact That I Will Die That I Mind		TB, piano
Luceat Eis		TTTTBB a cappella
Mad		TBB, piano
Rough Beast	(Jeremy D. Jones Male Choral Series)	TTBB, percussion
Salve Regina	(Graphite Publishing)	TBB semi-chorus, TTBB a cappella
She Moved Through the Fair (arr. Irish Ballad)	(Neil A. Kjos Music Co.)	TBB a cappella
Things I Didn't Know I Loved	(Graphite Publishing)	TTBB a cappella
'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime (arr. Huron Carol)	(Graphite Publishing)	TTBB a cappella
Veni Creator Spiritus	(Graphite Publishing)	TTBB a cappella
What I Have Done (arr. Amazing Grace/House of the Rising Sun)		TTTTBBB 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