

Luminous Beings
SATB, a cappella (opt. SATB soli)

Timothy C. Takach

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Luminous Beings

for SATB a cappella choir, opt. soli quartet

Commissioned by The Singers—Minnesota Choral Artists, Matthew Culloton, Artistic Director



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Text:

Rejoice, o seekers of the Light—
For the Star that shone that night
Still shines for those with eyes to see.

A candle flame, flickering, fragile,
Illuminates but a hand, a face, a passageway.
The humble hearth fire, softly glowing,
Reaches only to the corners of our sitting room.

But luminous,
Luminous beings are we!
We drive away the darkness
With an inner light

Lightning flashes bright as day,
But only for an instant,
And all again is darkness,
Shadows ever gathering, cov'ring, veiling.

But luminous,
Luminous beings are we,
Of spirit and of starlight made,
Bearers of the light of Love
Born to drive away all darkness.

- Charles Anthony Silvestri.



Poet, author, composer, and speaker **Charles Anthony Silvestri** has worked with other artists from all over the world to create texts tailor-made for their commissions and specific artistic needs. He enjoys the challenge of solving these creative problems and has provided custom choral texts, opera libretti, program notes and other writing for composers including Eric Whitacre, Ola Gjeilo, Kim Arnesen, and Dan Forrest, and for ensembles ranging from high schools to the Houston Grand Opera,

from the King's Singers to the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, from Westminster Choir College to Westminster Abbey. As a clinician, Silvestri speaks to choirs, classes, and concert audiences about his works, the creative process, the marriage of words and music, and about his collaborative relationships with composers. He is the author of three books, including *A Silver Thread* (GIA 2019), a retrospective of almost 20 years of his lyric poetry. He teaches Ancient and Medieval History at Washburn University and lives in Lawrence, KS.



Inspired by captivating narrative, speculative fiction and making better humans through art, the music of **Timothy C. Takach** is a mainstay in the concert world. Applauded for his melodic lines, thoughtful text choices and rich, intriguing harmonies, Takach has received commissions and performances from GRAMMY Award-winning ensembles Roomful of Teeth and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Santa Fe Desert Chorale, the St. Olaf Band, Cantus, U.S. Army Field Band and Soldiers' Chorus, 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, PBS, many 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 has been Composer in Residence for the Texas Boys Choir, The Singers – Minnesota Choral Artists, and True Concord Voices and Orchestra.

Takach's a cappella choral symphony *Helios* is "larger than life, as if the piece were accompanied by an orchestra" and is "complemented with brilliant visuals created by CandyStations" (Tucson.com). In 2023 his ballet *Unfashioned Creature* was premiered in St. Paul, MN by the James Sewell Ballet. Takach was a co-founder, singer and Artistic Co-Director of the vocal ensemble Cantus and has frequent national work as a composer-in-residence, presenter, clinician and lecturer. He lives in Minneapolis with his wife and two sons.

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for SATB a cappella (opt. soli quartet)

Charles Anthony Silvestri

Timothy C. Takach

$\text{♩} = 92$

rit.

mp

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Re - joyce, re - joyce, o seekers of the Light— For the

Re - joyce, re - joyce, o seekers of the Light— For the

Re - joyce, re - joyce, o seekers of the Light— For the

Re - joyce, re - joyce, o seekers of the Light— For the

rit.

6

$\text{♩} = 84$

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p

mf

S

A

T

B

Star that shone that night Still shines, still shines for

Star that shone that night Still shines, still shines for

Star that shone that night Still shines, still shines for

Star that shone that night Still shines, still shines



Timothy C Takach.com

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21

S/A soli *p* Lu - mi - nous, —

T/B soli nous, *p* Lu - mi - nous, — Lu - mi - nous, —

S *mp* Lu - mi - nous, *mp* A candle

A nous, Lu - mi - nous, Lu - mi - nous, — Lu -

T nous, — Lu - mi - nous, — Lu -

B nous, — Lu - mi - nous, — Lu -

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28

S flame, flick-er-ing, frag-ile, — Il-lu-mi-nates but a hand, a face, *p*

A — mi - nous, — Lu - mi - nous,

T — mi - nous, — lu - mi - nous, —

B — mi - nous, — Lu - mi - nous, —

34 *mf* *mp*

S a pas-sage - way. The hum-ble hearth fire, soft - ly

A a pas-sage - way. hum ble hearth fire, soft - ly

T Lu mi - nous, The hum-ble hearth fire, soft - ly

B Lu - mi - nous, The hearth fire, soft - ly

40 *p* *mp*

S/A soli glow, oh, oh

T/B soli glow, oh, oh

S glow - ing, Reach-es on - ly to the cor - ners of our

A glow - ing, glow, oh, oh Reach-es on - ly to the cor - ners of our

T glow - ing, glow, oh, oh Lu - mi -

B glow ing Lu - mi -

44

S sit-ting room. But lu - mi - nous,

A sit-ting room. But lu mi - nous,

T nous, Oo... But lu - mi - nous,

B nous, Oo... But lu - mi - nous,

50

S Lu - mi-nous be - ings are we! Lu - mi-nous be - ings are

A Lu - mi-nous be - ings are we! Lu - mi - nous, Lu - mi-nous be - ings are

T Lu - mi - nous be - ings are we! Lu mi-nous be - ings are

B Lu - mi - nous be - ings are we! Lu - mi - nous, Lu - mi-nous be - ings are

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56 *mf* *p*

S we! We drive a - way the dark - ness With an in - ner

A we! We drive a - way the dark - ness

T we! We drive a way the dark - ness, dark - ness

B we! We drive a - way the dark - ness

62 *mp* *p*

S/A soli Lu mi - nous,

T/B soli Lu - mi - nous,

S light Ah...

A Ah... Ah...

T Ah... Ah...

B Ah... Ah...

69 *mp*

S Light-ning flash - es bright as day, But on - ly for an

A Ah... *p* Lu mi nous,

T Lu mi nous,

B Lu mi nous,

74 *mp* *mf*

S/A soli And all a - gain is dark - ness,

S in - stant, And all a - gain is dark - ness,

A And all a - gain is dark - ness,

T And all is dark all is dark -

B And all is dark, all is dark -

80 *mf* *p*

S Shad - ows ev - er gath - er - ing, cov'r - ing, veil - ing. But lu - mi -

A Shad - ows ev - er gath - er - ing, cov'r - ing, veil - ing. But lu - mi -

T ness ev - er gath - er - ing, cov'r - ing, veil - ing. But lu - mi -

B ness ev - er gath - er - ing, cov'r - ing, veil - ing. But lu - mi -

87 *f*

S nous, Lu - mi - nous be - ings are we, Of

A nous, Lu - mi - nous be - ings are we, Lu - mi - nous,

T nous, Lu - mi - nous be - ings are we, Of

B nous, Lu - mi - nous be - ings are we, Lu - mi - nous,

93

S spir - it and of star - light made, Bear - ers of the light of

A spir - it and of star - light made, Bear - ers of the light of

T spir - it and of star - light made, Bear - ers of the light of

B spir - it and of star - light made, Bear - ers of

mp

99

S Love Born to drive a - way all dark - ness.

A Love Born to drive a - way all dark - ness.

T Love, of Love Born to drive a - way all dark - ness.

B Love, of Love Born to drive a - way all dark - ness.

p

to CODA if using soli quartet

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CODA

lu - - mi - nous,

lu - - mi - nous,

- way all dark - ness.

- way all dark - ness.

- way all dark - ness.

- way all dark - ness.

- way all dark - ness.

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