

Commissioned by Kantorei, conductor Richard Larson
Denver, CO 2012

Remembered Light

CLARK ASHTON SMITH

1893-1961

from 'Remembered Light' published in Dec. 1912

ERIC WILLIAM BARNUM

b1979

Vibrant, color-changing ♩ = 34

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

Piano
(for rehearsal
only)

mp

ppp

pp

ppp

pp

The

fall - ing, fall - ing, fall - ing, fall - ing,

snow, snow,

Snow, snow, Snow, snow, snow, snow,



Eric William Barnum

7

S. years are a fall-ing of snow, Slow, but with out ces - sa tion, On hills and moun-tains and

A. fall - ing, fall - ling fall - ing, fall - ing, fall - ing,

T. snow, snow, snow, snow, snow,

B. snow, snow, snow, snow, snow,

Pno.

p

pp

12

S. flo-wers and worlds that were; But snow and the crawl-ing of night in which it

A. fall - ing, fall - ing, fall - ing, fall - ing,

T. snow, snow, snow, snow,

B. snow, snow, snow, snow,

Pno.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

16 *poco rall.* *mf* *a tempo* *p*

S. fell May be washed a-way in one hour of flame, (m)

A. fall - ing May be washed a-way in one hour of flame, (m)

T. May be washed a-way in one hour, Thus it was in some slant of the sun - set

B. snow, May be washed a-way in one hour, Thus it was in some slant of the sun - set

Pno. *poco rall.*

21 *p* *mf*

S. hour of flame, (m) in one hour.

A. hour of flame, (m)

T. In the cha-smes of piled cloud, in the cha-smes, Tran-si-ent moun-tains that

B. In the cha-smes of piled cloud, in the cha-smes, O

Pno.

♩ = 50

27

S. *p* Smote warm,

A. *p* Smote warm,

T. *p* made a new ho-ri zon, Up - lift-ing the west to fan - tas - tic pin - na - cles, smote warm,

B. *p* Smote warm,

Pno.

32

S. *p* smote warm, *mp* smote warm, *p* Till the snows of for-get-ful-ness were rit.

A. *p* smote warm, *mp* smote warm,

T. *mp* in a bur-ied realm of the spi-rit *mp* smote warm,

B. *p* smote warm, *mp* smote warm, *pp* O

Pno.

piu mosso ♩ = 55

38

mf

S. gone. Bright was the twi - light, sharp like e - ther - eal wine A -

mf

A. Bright was the twi - light, Sharp like e - ther - eal wine A - bove, a -

mf

T. Bright was the twi - light, Sharp like e - ther - eal wine, A - bove, a -

mf

B. Bright was the twi - light, Sharp like e - ther - eal wine, A - bove, a -

Pno.

f poco rall. a tempo

44

f

S. bove, a - bove, but low in the clefts it thick - ened Dull, as with dusk - i - er tinc - ture,

f

A. bove, a - bove, but low, Dull,

f

T. bove, a - bove, but low, Dull,

f

B. bove, a - bove, but low, Dull,

Pno.

poco rall. mp a tempo

rit. *a tempo, meno mosso* ♩ = 50

50

S. *p* dull, as with dusk - i - er tinc - ture. Stars that were near - er, more ra - di - ant than ours,

A. *p* dull, Stars that were near - er, more ra - di - ant than ours,

T. *p* dull, as with dusk - i - er tinc - ture. Stars that were near - er, more ra - di - ant than ours,

B. *p* dull, Stars that were near - er, more ra - di - ant than ours,

Pno.

molto rall. *a tempo, piu mosso*

54

S. *mp* *mf* Qui - vered, and pulsed in the clear thin gold of the sky. These things I be - held, Till the

A. *mp* *mf* Qui - vered, clear thin gold of the sky. These things I be - held, Till the

T. *mp* *mf* Qui - vered, clear, clear thin gold of the sky. These things I be - held, Till the

B. *mp* *mf* Qui - vered, clear, clear thin gold of the sky. These things I be - held, Till the

Pno. *molto rall.*

60 *ff* **pesante** *f* **agitato**

S. gold was sha - ken with flight Of fan - tas - ti - cal wings like

A. gold was sha - ken with flight, Of fan - tas - ti - cal wings like

T. gold was sha - ken, till the gold was sha - ken, — *mf*

B. gold was sha - ken, till the gold was sha - ken, — *mf*

Pno.

64 *mf* **meno mosso** *mf* *mp*

S. bro - ken sha - dows, Fore - run - ning the dark - ness, —

A. bro - ken sha - dows, Fore run - ning the dark - ness, —

T. of fan - tas - ti - cal wings, — till the gold was sha - ken, — was

B. of fan - tas - ti - cal wings, — till the gold was sha - ken, — was

Pno.

68

S. *mp* *p* fore - run - ning the dark - ness, fore - run - ning the dark - ness

A. *mp* *p* fore - run - ning the dark - ness, fore - run - ning the dark - ness

T. *p* sha - ken, like bro - ken,

B. *p* sha - ken, like bro - ken,

Pno.

72

S. *p* *mp* dark $\text{♩} = 50$ fore - run - ning the dark - ness; Till the twi - light shi - vered

A. *p* *mp* fore - run - ning the dark - ness; Till the twi - light shi - vered

T. *pp* *mp* *pp* 1 sha - dows, fore - run - ning the dark - ness;

B. *pp* *p* *p* sha - dows, fore - run - ning the dark - ness; O

Pno.

1. Individually whistle low and medium tones that slowly descend. As whistles descend, diminish and release. Imagine floating wisps and spirits hovering over a glowing expanse, or a morning dove. Not too many, sparse and random.

78 **poco rall. a tempo** **warm, meno mosso**

S. with out-cry of eld-ritch voi-ces, like pain's last cry ere o - bli-vi - on, ere o -

A. with out-cry of eld-ritch voi-ces, like pain's last cry ere o - bli-vi - on, ere o -

T.

B. O O These things I be

Pno.

85 **rit.** **pp** **2** **tempo primo** ♩ = 34

S. bli - vi - on, ere o - bli - vi - on.

A. bli - vi - on, ere o - bli - vi - on.

T.

B. held ere o - bli - vi - on.

Pno.

Solo Voices:
p fall - ing,
Solo Voices: p
Solo Voices: p snow,
 Snow,

rit.

2. Individually whistle low and medium tones that slowly descend. As whistles descend, diminish and release. Imagine floating wisps and spirits hovering over a glowing expanse, or a morning dove. Not too many, sparse and random.

89

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

decresc. poco a poco al niente

fall - ing, fall - ing, fall - ing,

snow, snow, snow,

snow,

3

3

3

3

3. Continue floating spirits, getting more sporadic and distant as long as desired.

Remembered Light

The years are a falling of snow,
 Slow, but without cessation,
 On hills and mountains and flowers and worlds that were;
 But snow and the crawling night in which it fell
 May be washed away in one swifter hour of flame.
 Thus it was that some slant of sunset
 In the chasms of piled cloud —
 Transient mountains that made a new horizon,
 Uplifting the west to fantastic pinnacles —
 Smote warm in a buried realm of the spirit,
 Till the snows of forgetfulness were gone.

Clear in the vistas of memory,
 The peaks of a world long unremembered,
 Soared further than clouds, but fell not,
 Based on hills that shook not nor melted
 With that burden enormous, hardly to be believed.
 Rent with stupendous chasms,
 Full of an umber twilight,
 I beheld that larger world.
 Bright was the twilight, sharp like ethereal wine
 Above, but low in the clefts it thickened,
 Dull as with duskier tincture.
 Like whimsical wings outspread but unstirring,
 Flowers that seemed spirits of the twilight,
 That must pass with its passing —
 Too fragile for day or for darkness,
 Fed the dusk with more delicate hues than its own.
 Stars that were nearer, more radiant than ours,
 Quivered and pulsed in the clear thin gold of the sky.

These things I beheld,
 Till the gold was shaken with flight
 Of fantastical wings like broken shadows,
 Forerunning the darkness;
 Till the twilight shivered with outcry of eldritch voices,
 Like pain's last cry ere oblivion.

by Clark Ashton Smith



Eric William Barnum