

Three Nebraska Lyrics

For SATB and Piano

David von Kampen

Original poetry by Becky Boesen
Duration: c. 11'30"



Original poems by Becky Boesen:

1. On the Ridge

*The wind whispers under Ponderosa pine.
It echoes through the Cottonwoods that fill the timberline.
And if you listen, who knows what you might find
on the ridge.*

*Shadow meets the sunshine, capturing moments from the past.
Clouds take hold in afternoon, the sky turns overcast
on the ridge.*

*The sun rises, and the world is light again.
The tall grass shoots up from the earth, an old and trusted friend.
A wondrous Western morning where the blue sky knows no end.
On the ridge.*

2. Underneath

*If I plant some seeds, let the roots grow deep,
bedded in the valley, stirring underneath.
The tender buds break ground while our children sleep.
Platte River, let her flow.*

*When my soul leaves my body, lay it in this field.
Rest me in the basin, where my crops still yield.
Return me to my home, under great green weald.
Platte River, let her flow.*

3. The Planting Season

*He rode down from the hillside, his team so swift and strong,
searching for the flatlands, a place where he'd belong.
It was the planting season, and so he did break ground,
and if you're wonderin' what comes next, dear children gather round.*

*He built himself a cabin on the claim that he would stake.
The meadowlark's sweet song each day reminded him to make
the most of God's green hillside, so he planted it with his hands,
working dawn to dusk most every night, the deed the land demands.*

*One day he rode up hillside for an errand in the town,
and came across a beauty adorned in a flowered gown.*

*Oh, bless this planting season and the bounty that will grow
for the good man and his farm wife who will tend the seeds they sow.*

*The years passed like a season and the farmer took his rest.
She stood with him at bedside and made a quiet request:
"When you walk up God's green hillside, don't forget to wait, my love.
I'll meet you when the planting's done, on the hillside up above.
I'll see you when my days are done, on God's green hillside up above."*

David von Kampen (b. 1986) is a composer from Lincoln, Nebraska. David's music spans a wide variety of genres and styles, including jazz, choral music, hymnody and liturgy, solo voice, chamber music, and musical theater.

David is a six-time Downbeat Award winner in graduate-level jazz writing categories, a three-time winner of the Vancouver Chamber Choir Young Composers Competition, and was named the MTNA Distinguished Composer of the Year for his song cycle "Under the Silver and Home Again." He has been among ten winners of the ORTUS International New Music Competition, the recipient of an ASCAP Young Jazz Composer award, winner of the San Francisco Choral Artists New Voices Project, winner of the National Band Association's Young Jazz Composers Competition, and received Honorable Mention in the New York Youth Symphony First Music Commissions. "Puddin' and the Grumble," David's original musical with playwright Becky Boesen, was one of seven finalists for the Richard Rodgers award.

David has over 60 published choral and instrumental compositions and arrangements. His music has been performed by the KHORIKOS Vocal Ensemble, the L.A. Choral Lab, KC VITAs Chamber Choir, the Taiwan Youth Festival Chorus, San Francisco Choral Artists, the U.S. Army Blues Jazz Ensemble, the Vancouver Chamber Choir, and by collegiate, all-state, high school, and church ensembles throughout the United States and internationally.

Visit **www.DavidvonKampen.com** for more.

Commissioned by Dr. Joel Schreuder and the Choirs of Chadron State College

On the Ridge

For SATB and piano

Becky Boesen

David von Kampen

With forward motion, not too slow ♩ = 108

p *mp* *p*

Soprano
Alto

The wind

Piano



4

SA

whis - pers

TB

whis - pers

Pno.

pp



8

SA

un - der Pon - der - o - sa pine. It

TB

Pno.

pp

8va -

3

12

SA

ech - oes through the Cot - ton - woods that fill the tim - ber -

TB

It ech - oes through the Cot-ton - woods that fill the tim - ber -

Pno.

p

PERUSAL

15

SA *mp* *p*
line. And if you

TB *mp* *p*

Pno. *mp* *pp* *mp*

19

SA *pp*
lis-ten, lis-ten, lis - ten who knows _____

TB

Pno. *p* *pp*

24 *heavy* *mp* *pp* **(27) Freely, out of time**

SA — what you might find on the ridge.

TB *p* *mp* *pp*

Pno. *mp* *p* quasi-improvising

Ped.

(31) still freely *ppp* *pp* *p* *mp* *ppp* *pp* *p* *mp*

SA Shad - ow, shad-ow, shad-ow meets the sun - shine, —

TB *ppp* *pp* *p* *mp*

Pno. *ppp* *pp* *p* *mp*

Ped.

34

SA

cap - tur - ing mo - ments, mo - ments, mo - ments from the past.

TB

Pno.

mf *p*

pp

39 Very slow, in time ♩ = 60

SA

Clouds take hold in af - ter - noon, the sky turns o - ver - cast_

TB

Pno.

mp *p* push forward...

mp *p*

43 Tempo I ♩ = 108

42

SA — on the ridge. The sun,

TB *p*

Pno. *mp*

8vb - - -

46

S *p* The sun *mp* ris - - - es,

A *mp* The sun *p* ris - es, *mp*

T 8 PERUSAL

B *pp* The sun

Pno.

50 *p*

S ris - es, _____

pp

A ris - es, _____

pp

T ris - es, _____

pp

B ris - es, _____

Pno.

(56) gathering momentum...

55 *p* *mp*

SA and the world is light _____ a - gain. and the world is light

p *mp*

TB

Pno.

59 (60)

SA *mf* *f*
— a - gain. The tall grass shoots up from the earth,

TB *mf* *f*

Pno. *mf* *f*

62 *mf*

SA up from the earth, up from the earth,

TB *mf*

Pno.

PERUSAL

65

S up from the earth, up from the earth, _____

A up from the earth, up _____

T up from the earth, up from the

B up from the earth,

Pno. *mf* *mp*

The musical score is for a four-part vocal setting with piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The lyrics for the vocal parts are 'up from the earth,' and 'up from the'. The piano part (Pno.) features a melody with triplets and dynamic markings of mezzo-forte (mf) and mezzo-piano (mp). The score is marked with a rehearsal number 65 at the beginning of the vocal staves.

68

S *mf* *p*
the earth, an old and trust - ed

A *mf* *p*
from the earth, an old and trust - ed

T *mf* *p*
8 earth, from the earth, an old and trust - ed

B *mp* *mf* *p*
from the earth, the earth, an old and trust - ed

Pno. *p*

rit. ----- (76) **Slower**

72

SA friend. A won-drous West-ern morn-ing

TB friend.

Pno. *mp* *pp* *mp* *p*

77

SA where the blue sky knows no end. On the ridge.

TB

Pno. *pp* *mp* *p*

PERUSAL

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Underneath

For SATB and piano

Becky Boesen

David von Kampen

Slow ♩ = 80

Alto

Piano

5

S

A

T

B

Pno.

p

p

p

p

lf l

bed - ded in the

plant some seeds, let the roots grow deep, bed - ded in the

let the roots grow deep, bed - ded in the

bed - ded in the

10 *mp* *p* *mp*

S val - ley, stir - ring, Stir - - - ring,

A val - - ley, stir - ring, Stir - - - ring,

T *mp* *p* *mp*
8 val - ley, Stir - ring, stir - ring,

B *mp* *p* *mp*
val - - ley, Stir - ring, stir - ring,

Pno. *mp* *p* *mp*

14 *p* *p* *p* *p*

S un - der - neath.

A un - der - neath.

T *p*
8 stir - ring, un - der - neath.

B *p*
Stir - ring, un - der - neath.

Pno. *p*

PERUSAL

Underneath - page 3 of 7

18 *mp* (19)

SA The ten - der buds break ground while our chil - dren sleep.

Pno. *mp*

22

SA Platte Riv - - - er, —

TB *mp* Platte Riv - er, — let her flow,

Pno.

26 (29) *p* pushing forward

SA — let her flow, — let her

TB *p* let her flow,

Pno. *espres.*

30 *mp* *mf* *rit.* (33) Tempo I ♩ = 80

SA flow, let her flow. When my soul leaves my

TB let her flow. When my soul leaves my

Pno. (rit.) (Tempo I) *mf*

34 *mp* *mp*

SA bod - y, lay it in this field. Rest me in the

TB *mp*

Pno. *mp*

PERUSAL

Underneath - page 5 of 7

38

S
ba - sin, where _____ my crops _____ still yield. _____

A
ba - sin, where _____ my crops _____ my

T
8
ba - sin, where, _____ where _____ my

B
ba - sin, where, _____ where _____ my

Pno.

43

S
p _____ *pp* (46) _____ *mp*
Re - turn me to my home, re

A
p crops still yield. *pp* _____ *mp*
Re - turn me to my home, re

T
8
p crops still yield. *p* Re - turn me to my

B
p crops still yield. *p* Re - turn me to my

Pno.

48 *mf* *f*

SA turn me to my home, re - turn me to my home,

TB home, re - turn me to, re - turn my home,

Pno. *mp* *f*



52 *mf* *mp* (56)

SA un-der great green weald.

TB *mf* *mp* Riv - er, let her

Pno. *mf* *mp*

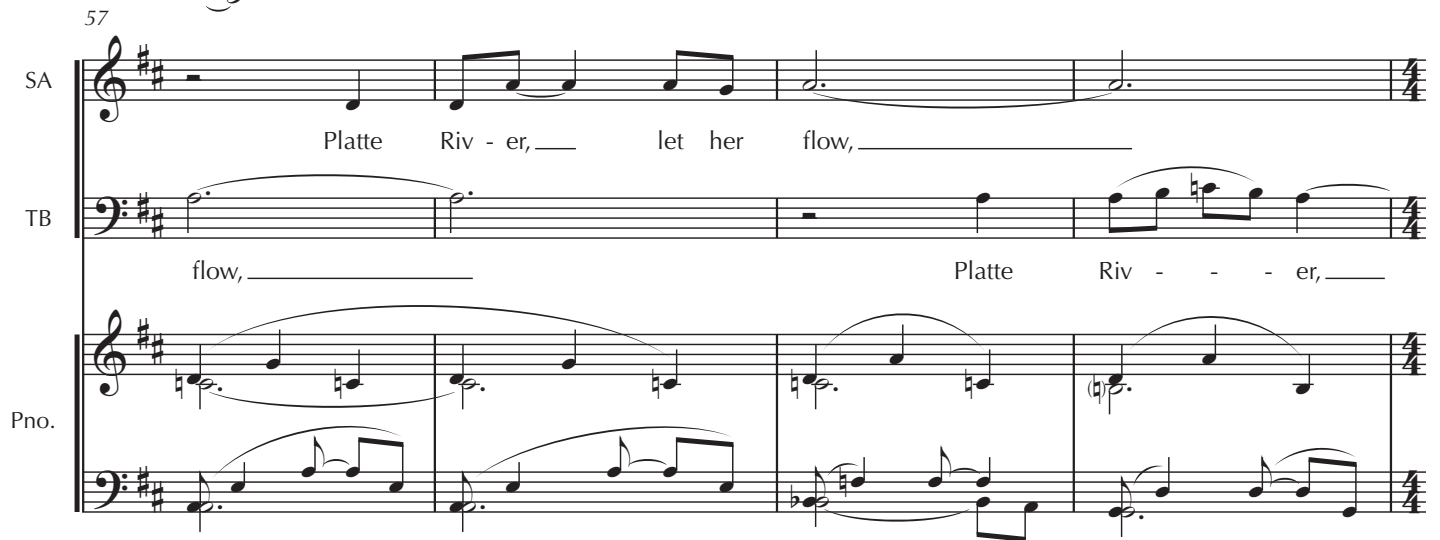


57

SA Platte Riv - er, let her flow,

TB flow, Platte Riv - - - er,

Pno.



61

SA

let her flow.

TB

Pno.

65

SA

p *rit.*

TB

p Hmm.

Pno.

p espres. (rit.)

* gentle, understated slides

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The Planting Season

For SATB and piano

Becky Boesen

David von Kampen

With a bright gallop ♩ = 120

SA unis. *mf*

Soprano
Alto

Piano

f

mp

He

4

SA

rode down from the hill - side, his team so swift and strong, search-ing for the flat - lands, a

Pno.

mf

7

SA

place where he'd be-long. It was the plant ing sea - son, and

Pno.

mp

ped.

10 *mf*

SA
so he did break ground, and if you're won-derin' what comes next, dear chil-dren gath-er round.

Pno. *mf*

13 *TB unis. mf*

TB
He

Pno. *f* **PERUSAL** *mp*

16

TB
built him-self a cab-in on the claim that he would stake. The mead-ow-lark's sweet song each day re-

Pno. *sffz mf*

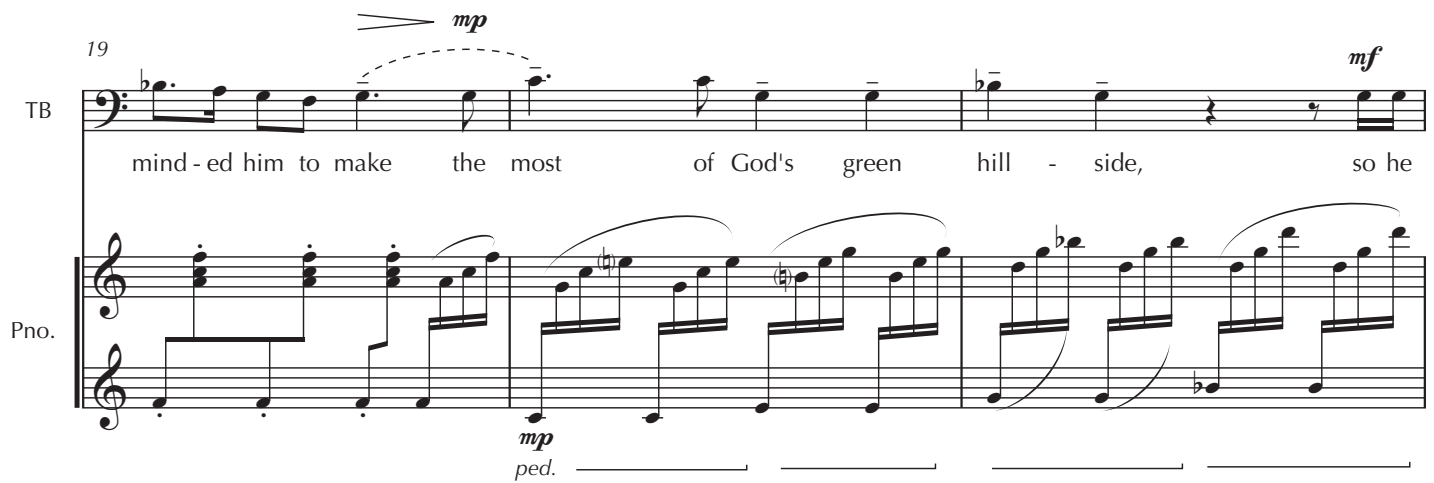
19 *mp* *mf*

TB

mind - ed him to make the most of God's green hill - side, so he

Pno.

mp
ped.



22

TB

plant - ed it with his hands, work - ing dawn to dusk most eve - ry night, the deed the land de - mands.

Pno.

mf



(25) *mp*

SA

One

TB

mp

Pno.

f *mp*



(28)

SA day he rode up hill - side for an er - rand in the

TB

Pno.

31

SA town, and came ac-ross a beau - ty a - -

TB

Pno.

PERUSAL

34

SA
dorned in a flow - ered gown. Oh, bless this plant - ing

TB
Oh, bless this

Pno.

mf **36 Broadly**

37

SA
sea - son and the boun - ty that will grow for the good man and his

TB
sea - - - son and the boun - ty that will grow for the good man and his

Pno.

mp

rit. -----

41

SA farm wife who will tend the seeds they sow. The

TB

Pno. *mp* *p*

(46) Slower ♩ = 92

SA years passed the a son and the father is rest.

TB She

Pno. Slower ♩ = 92

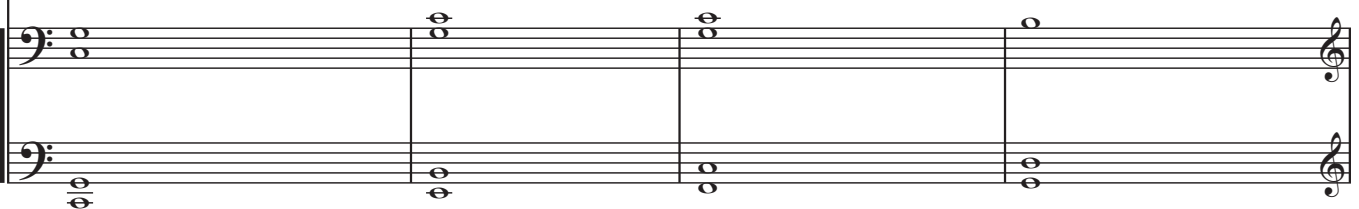
The Planting Season - page 7 of 10

50

mp

SA 

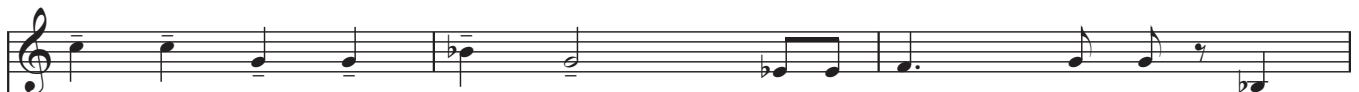
TB 

Pno. 

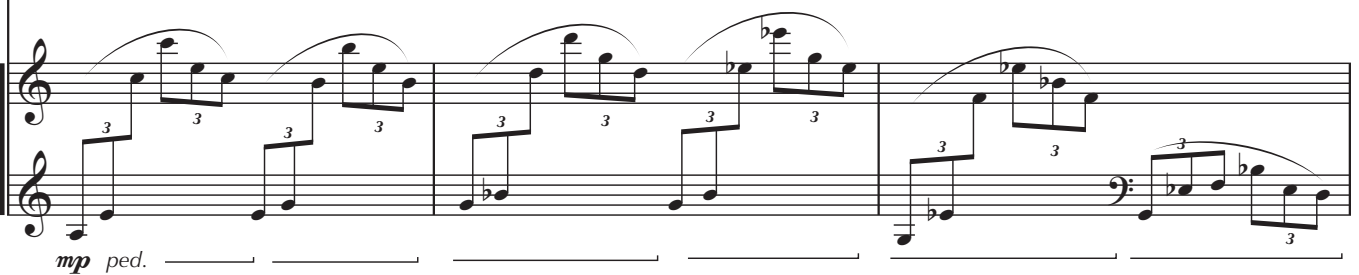
"When you

stood with him at bed - side and made a quiet re - quest:

(54)

SA 

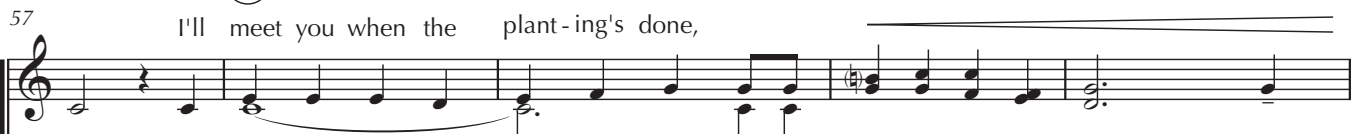
walk up God's green hill - side, don't for - get to wait, my

Pno. 

mp ped.

(58)

57

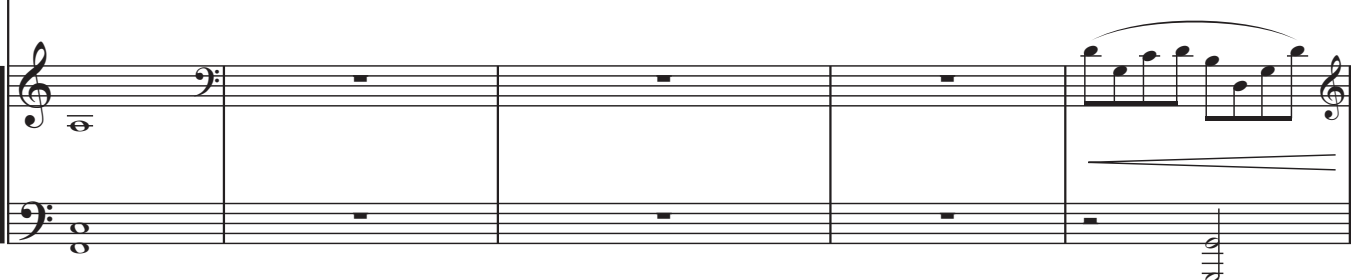
SA 

I'll meet you when the plant-ing's done,

love. ooh on the hill-side up a - bove. I'll

TB 

on the hill-side up a - bove. I'll

Pno. 

62 *Broadly*

rit.

SA *f*

meet you when the plant - ing's done, on the hill - side up a -

TB *f*

Pno. *Broadly f* *(rit.)*

66 *a tempo* ♩ = 92

accel. -----

65 *p* *mp*

SA bove. I'll see you when my days__ are done, I'll see you when my days__ are

TB *p* *mp*

bove. I'll see you when my days__ are done, on

Pno. *a tempo* ♩ = 92 *p* *mp* *accel.* -----

bouyant, gaining energy

(71) Tempo I ♩ = 120

69 *mf*

SA done, on God's green hill - side, I'll see you when my days_____ are

mf

TB God's green hill - side, I'll see you when my days_____ are done, on God's green

Pno. *mf*

Tempo I ♩ = 120

72

SA done, on God's green hill - side, when my days are done, on

TB hill-side when my days_____ are done, on God's green hill-side when my days are done, on

Pno.

75

SA God's green hill side

TB

Pno.

77

SA up a

TB

Pno.

PERUSAL

79

SA *mp* bove, *p* a - - - bove."

TB *mp* *p*

Pno. *mp* *p* *f*