

And none but Love  
GP-L009  
for SATB, piano, opt. C instrument

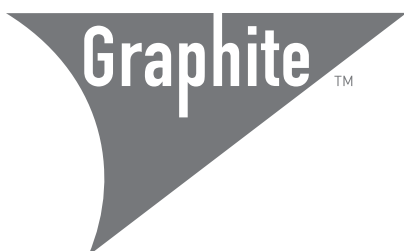
Isaac Lovdahl

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# Isaac Lovdahl

## And none but Love

for SATB choir, piano, and optional C instrument



notable. elevated.

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## Text:

Dear love, what thing of all the things that be  
Is ever worth one thought from you or me,  
Save only Love,  
Save only Love?

The days so short, the nights so quick to flee,  
The world so wide, so deep and dark the sea,  
So dark the sea;

So far the suns and every listless star,  
Beyond their light Ah! dear, who knows how far,  
Who knows how far?

One thing of all dim things I know is true,  
The heart within me knows, and tells it you,  
And tells it you.

So blind is life, so long at last is sleep,  
And none but Love to bid us laugh or weep,  
And none but Love,  
And none but Love.

- *Willa Cather (1873-1947)*

## From the Composer:

The essential question posed in Willa Cather's poem, "Evening Song," is this: What could be more important than Love?

The skies are boundless beyond our feeble human comprehension and the world is wider than we can possibly know. Why trouble ourselves with these unknowable questions? Let us dwell in our present place and moment. Let us share Love with one another whenever possible, wherever possible, and by any possible means.

This piece should be sung candidly and with deep sincerity. Some of the larger chords in the left hand of the piano can be rolled if necessary.

- *Isaac Lovdahl, 2025*

## Isaac Lovdahl



Isaac Lovdahl is an award-winning composer, conductor, educator, and bass-baritone vocalist who serves as Director of Choral Activities at Bemidji State University and Artistic Director of the Bemidji Chorale. His music has been described as "a revelation" and "remarkable" (The American Prize), and he has established himself as a rising star in the choral music world. In recent years, Isaac has received award recognition, commissions, and premieres from Cantus, the Yale Glee Club, The Singers - Minnesota Choral Artists, the Young New Yorkers' Chorus, the Cambridge Chamber Singers, Choral Arts Initiative, the Festival of New American Music, the Ithaca College Choral Composition Festival, Minneapolis SongSLAM, and the North Dakota Music Teachers Association in conjunction with the Music Teachers National Association, among others. To learn more, please visit [isaaclovdahl.com](http://isaaclovdahl.com).

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for BSU Sing! Day 2025

Dr. Jennifer Olson, Artistic Director

## And none but Love

for SATB choir, piano, and optional C instrument

Willa Cather

Isaac Loydahl

With earnest conviction ♩ = 72

notable. elevated.

Piano

*mf espress.*

(pedal naturally and harmonically throughout, as if playing from a hymnal)

S  
A

*mf*

Dear — love, what thing of all the things that be is ev - er worth one thought from you or

T  
B

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S  
A

me, save on - ly Love, save on - ly Love?

T  
B

*mf*

The days so

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notable. elevated.

Graphite

notable. elevated.

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12

S  
A

T  
B

short, the nights so quick to flee, the world so wide, so

Graphite TM

notable. elevated.

15

S

A

T

B

deep and dark the sea, so dark the sea, so dark the

deep and dark the sea, so dark the sea, so dark the

Graphite TM

notable. elevated.

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18

C-instr. (optional)

*mp legato* *mf* *f*

S

A

T

B

sea; So far the

sea; So far the

sea; So far the

sea; So far the

Graphite notable.elevated.

Broader and with greater gravitas ♩ = c. 60

22

C-instr.

*f*

S

A

T

B

suns and ev - ery list - less star, be - yond their light - Ah!

suns and ev - ery list - less star, be - yond their light - Ah!

suns and ev - ery list - less star, be - yond their light - Ah!

suns and ev - ery list - less star, be - yond their light - Ah!

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25  
C-instr.

S  
A  
T  
B

dear, who knows how far, who knows how far, who knows how  
dear, who knows how far, who knows how far, who knows how  
dear, who knows how far, who knows how far, who knows how  
dear, who knows how far, who knows how far, who knows how

Graphite TM notable. elevated.

As before, but slightly slower ♩ = c. 65

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28  
C-instr.

S  
A  
T  
B

far? non dim. m  
far? non dim.  
far? non dim. TM  
far? non dim.

Graphite TM notable. elevated.

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3

C-instr. *mp*

S *mf*

A One thing of all dear things I know is true, the heart with-

T *mf*

B One thing of all dear things I know is true, the heart with-

*mf*

34

S

A in me knows, and tells it you, and tells it you, and tells it

T

B in me knows, and tells it you, and tells it you, and tells it

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37

C-instr. *mp*

S *mp*

A you. So blind is life, so long at last is sleep, and none but

T *mp*

B you. So blind is life, so long at last is sleep, and none but

*mp*

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41

C-instr.

S  
A  
T  
B

Love to bid us laugh or weep, and none but Love, and none but Love, and none but Love,

Love to bid us laugh or weep, and none but Love, and none but Love, and none but Love,

46

S  
A  
T  
B

and none but Love. non dim.

and none but Love. non dim.

and none but Love. non dim.

and none but Love. non dim.

8

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49