

A Love Like That

Hafiz / Daniel Ladinsky

medium voice and piano



Elizabeth Alexander

Seafarer Press

The Sun Never Says

Even
After
All this time
The sun never says to the earth,

“You owe
Me.”

Look
What happens
With a love like that,
It lights the
Whole
Sky.

Hafiz
Translated and adapted by Daniel Ladinsky

From the Penguin publication, “The Gift: Poems by Hafiz,” © 1999 by Daniel Ladinsky
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To learn more about this song see Composer Note at the end of this publication

For my parents, after all this time

A Love Like That

for medium voice and piano

Hafiz, rendered by Daniel Ladinsky

Elizabeth Alexander

1 **Tenderly, somewhere around** ♩ = 108-116

p

Ped. *Ped.*

5 *These measures may be repeated for vocal or instrumental improvisation, or if singer is making an entrance.*

Ped. *Ped.*

9 *p warmly*

E-ven af-ter all this time, e-ven af-ter all this time, e-ven af-ter

Ped. *Ped.*

13

all this time.

Ped. *Ped.*

17

E-ven af-ter all this time, the sun nev-er says to the earth,

D/F# G D/A G/B

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

21

the sun nev-er

D/C

Ped.

25

says to the earth, "You

Ped.

28

owe me,"

D

Ped. Ped.

Opal Palmer Adisa, poet • Paul Adams, technological hero • Stephen Alexander, lyric consultant • Ginny Allen, Agile coach and friend • The great people at American Composers Forum • Yehuda Amichai, poet • A. R. Ammons, poet • Jennifer Anderson, conductor and composer advocate • Scott Bates, poet • Abbie Betinis, initiator of collaborative endeavors • Beth Norton, conductor and composer advocate • Dennis Blubaugh, more than just a music dealer • Michael deVernon Boblett, poet • Edna Busby, my first piano teacher • Ray Bradbury, writer • Augustin Cadena, translator • Norbert Capek, minister and advocate for religious freedom • Jessica Corbett, editor • David Cummings, poet • Philip Dacey, poet • Catherine Dalton, composer and scrum partner • Emily Dickinson, poet • Evelyn Dudley, poet and caregiver • Rob Eller-Isaacs, minister and composer advocate • Ralph Waldo Emerson, philosopher and poet • Louise Erdrich, writer • David Allan Evans, poet • Sophia Lyon Fahs, writer • Richard M. Fewkes, minister and writer • Pasha Gertler, poet • Jack Gallagher, composer and teacher • Paul Gerike, proofreader • Jocelyn Hagen and Michael Hagan, founders of Graphite Marketplace • Steve Harper, just about everything • Steve Harkins, web designer • Edie Hill, composer and friend • Langston Hughes, poet • Margaret and George Heald, piano technician • Karel Husa, composer and teacher • David Ignatow, poet • Kabir, mystic • Linda Kachelmeier, composer and scrum partner • Ruth Palmer, conductor and composer advocate • Joan Wolf Prefontaine, poet • Paul Rardin, conductor and composer advocate • Kalidasa, poet • Steve Kaul, recording engineer • Søren Kierkegaard, philosopher and poet • Dorothy Knost, piano teacher • Ben Krywosz, artistic director of Nautilus Music-Theater • Denise Levertov, poet • George Ella Lyon, poet • Jonathan Machen, vocalist • Dawna Markova, writer • Anne Matlack, conductor and composer advocate • Nancy Menk, composer advocate • Edna St. Vincent Millay, poet • Jane Ramseyer Miller, conductor, composer, social activist • Joe Mish, conductor and composer advocate • J. David Moore, composer • Gerald Rich, poet • Carl Sandburg, poet • friend • King Sigismund III, religious reformer • Ann Silsbee, composer, poet and friend • Simon Alexander-Adams, sounding board, fellow creative, and awesome son • Steven Stucky, composer and teacher • Rabindranath Tagore, poet • Sister Peronne Marie Thibert, teacher and writer • Oliver Alexander-Adams, unconventional thinker and light of my life • Howard Thurman, civil rights leader and writer • Everyone whose work supports the Association for Unitarian Universalist Music Ministries • Charles Varney, high school choral director • Anna Vonhuben, illustrator and graphic designer • Nancy White, poet • John Greenleaf Whittier, poet • Theodore Chickering Williams, poet • Daniel Winter, pianist and teacher • Nancy Wood, poet • Yehudi Wyner, composer and teacher

**A lot of hard work
and creativity went
into bringing this
music to you...**



**...and some of it
was even mine.**

**This page has been intentionally omitted.
(You know why.) A complete perusal score may be
purchased through any music store or dealer.**

Elizabeth Alexander

Seafarer Press

The Music of Elizabeth Alexander

www.seafarerpress.com

47

sun nev-er says to the earth, "You

D/C

Ped.

51

owe me,"

D

Ped.

55

pp

E - ven af - ter all this time,

pp

Ped.

59

poco a poco accelerando

Ped.

Brightly, faster

63 *mf*

Look what hap - pens with a love like that,

Asus⁴ *G⁷*

p subito *mf rockin'!*

** Ped. (Really hold down this pedal!)*

67

Look what hap - pens with a love like that,

Asus⁴ *G⁷*

p subito *Ped.*

70 *ecstatically*

Look what hap - pens with a love like

Asus⁴ *p subito*

** Ped.*

73 *f*

that,

G#11 *f ecstatic*

7 *5* *6* *5* *6* *5*

Ped.

Senza Misura - very freely*Here you are beyond any thought of keeping score.**Free your mind of all counting or accounting. (If you are able to do this, good for you!)*

75 *expansively*

It lights the whole sky,

Piano repeats this and subsequent ascending scales an indefinite number of times.
(*Colla voce*)

76

It lights the whole sky,

77

It lights the whole sky,

Play higher octave on repeats

Repeat each passage as many times as you wish

79 *mp* freely, as if speaking to audience ,

E - ven af - ter all this time, a love like that lights the

(8) *p* *Em*⁷ *A*^{7sus}₄

p

Red. *Red.*

80 *This measure is completely unsynchronized. Just listen, feel and play.*

whole sky.

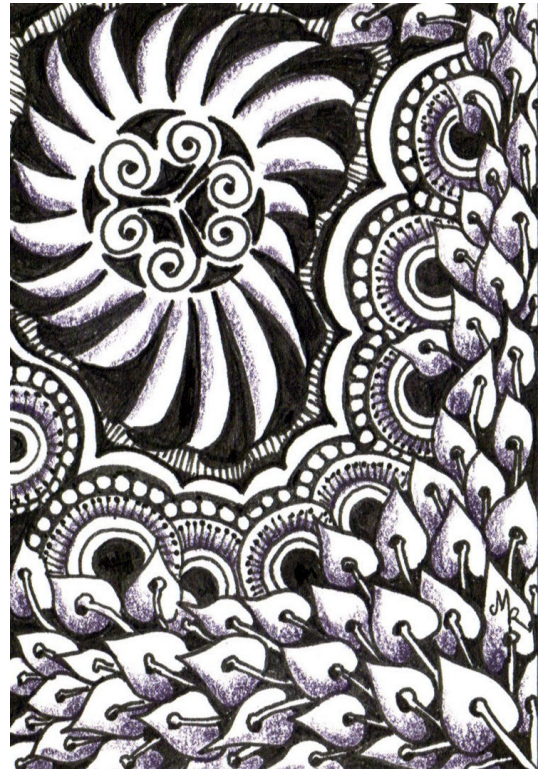
D slowly, thoughtfully

Red.

Composer Note: The scholarly side of me always scrutinizes the texts I set to music to ensure they are authentic, accurate and properly attributed. But I have another side – *** the artist side *** – which like a bright-eyed magpie leans toward shiny things: beauty, delight, patterns, color, sounds, and ideas which open the heart.

Thus it was with some trepidation that I approached the work of poet Daniel Ladinsky. Neither a purist nor an academic, Ladinsky’s engaging Hafiz-inspired renderings have inspired passionate debate among poetry lovers, Sufi scholars, and Farsi speakers alike. To what extent are Ladinsky’s poems translations as opposed to original poems? And how much does that matter?

In the end, my inner debate was decided by a burst of spontaneous gratitude. I enthusiastically and unapologetically set “The Sun Never Says” to music in honor of my extraordinary parents’ 50th wedding anniversary.



Cover Art:
“Ancient Sun”
by Margaret Storer-Roche
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A Love Like That is also included in these extended vocal works and collections:

Nature Creature

The beauty and complexity of being alive are woven into the sensuous fabric of *Nature Creature*. A compelling vocal work composed over a ten year period for dynamic vocalist Ruth MacKenzie, this dramatic showpiece taps into the folk and jazz styles for which the singer is well known, along with unique musical expressions best described as passionate, sweet, wry and tender. An optional cello part offers an additional rich, genre-defying dimension to this lyrical work.

- I. Tree Song (George Ella Lyon)
- II. The Meadow Doesn't Know About the Stock Market (George Ella Lyon)
- III. I Should Be Content (David Ignatow)
- IV. Come Soon (Lilian Moore)
- V. Play (A. R. Ammons)
- VI. Life Will Break You (Louise Erdrich)
- VII. I'll Tell You a Story, then (Nancy White)
- VIII. A Love Like That (Hafiz / Daniel Ladinsky)

SEA-121-00: low voice, piano

SEA-121-01: medium voice, piano

SEA-121-02: high voice, piano

A Love Like That: Songs of Unconditional Love

Six songs exploring different facets of unconditional love. Springing forth from experiences like a child's nap, a solitary walk, deep grief, or an awareness of nature's bounty, these open-hearted offerings pour forth with immediacy and grace.

1. Sleep Song (Ann Silsbee)
2. The Eternal One (Ralph Waldo Emerson)
3. A Love Like That (Hafiz / Daniel Ladinsky)
4. The Gospel Isn't Written in the Bible Alone (Elizabeth Alexander)
5. I'll Tell You a Story, then... (Nancy White)
6. Grace (Elizabeth Alexander)

SEA-150-00: low voice, piano

SEA-150-01: medium voice, piano

SEA-150-02: high voice, piano

Vocal Music by Elizabeth Alexander

A Garret of Old Playthings (Carl Sandburg)
high voice, piano

A Love Like That (Hafiz/Ladinsky)
low voice / medium voice / high voice, piano

Conversation on a Train (Elizabeth Alexander)
Duet: low voice & medium voice, piano

Die Gedanken Sind Frei (German protest song, arr. Alexander)
Duet: low voice & high voice / 2 medium voices, piano

Grace (Elizabeth Alexander)
low voice / medium voice / high voice, piano

I Write This Poem Out of Darkness (George Ella Lyon)
Trio: low, medium & high voices, flute, violin, piano

I'll Tell You a Story, then... (Nancy White)
low voice / medium voice / high voice, piano

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (Polish carol, arr. Alexander)
Trio: low, medium & high voices *a cappella*

Jo! (The Edict of Torda)
Trio: low, medium & high voices *a cappella*

My Aunt Gives Me a Clarinet Lesson (Gregory Djanikian)
soprano, flute, clarinet, violin, cello, piano, percussion

No One Gets a Program (Dutch proverb, Elizabeth Alexander)
Duet: low voice & medium voice, piano

No Ordinary Song (Elizabeth Alexander)
medium voice, piano

Oath Taking (Opal Palmer Adisa)
high voice, piano

On the Edge of the Water (Elizabeth Alexander)
low voice, piano

Sleep Song (Ann Silsbee)
low voice / medium voice / high voice, piano

The Eternal One (Ralph Waldo Emerson)
low voice / medium voice / high voice, piano

The Gospel Isn't Written in the Bible Alone (Elizabeth Alexander)
low voice / medium- high voice, piano

Trouble in a Minnesota Town (Neal Bowers)
medium voice / high voice, piano

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