

# Snowflakes

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Seth Houston

Freely  $c. \text{♩} = 72$

Piano *p*

*8<sup>va</sup>*

*simile - pedal should be used judiciously throughout*

Flute *p*

*8<sup>va</sup>*

*poco rit.* 10 *a tempo* *p*

S  
Out of the bos-om of the Air,

*8<sup>va</sup>*

*poco rit.* *a tempo*

S  
Out of the cloud-folds of her gar - ments shak - en, O - ver the wood-lands brown and

*8<sup>va</sup>*

*sub. pp*

*sub. pp*

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S  
bare O-ver the har-vest - fields for - sak - en, —

A  
*pp* O-ver the har-vest - fields for - sak - en, —

Flute  
Cello *pizz.* *pp*  
*p*

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(Flute) *poco rit.* 20 *a tempo*  
*p* *pp*

(Cello) *poco rit.* *a tempo*  
*arco*  
*mp*

*poco rit.* *p a tempo*

musical score for piano, page 4. The score is written in a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a 3/4 time signature. It consists of four systems of music, each with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The first system includes markings for *poco rit.*, *a tempo*, and *p*. The second system includes markings for *poco rit.*, *a tempo*, and *pp*. The third system includes a marking for *poco rit.*. The fourth system includes a marking for *poco rit.*. A large red watermark reading "For Perusal Only" is overlaid across the middle of the page.

28 *a tempo* *p*

S  
A  
T

*a tempo* *pp* *p*

*a tempo* *p*

Out

Out of the bos-om of the Air,

Out of the bos-om of the Air, Out of the cloud-folds of her

*a tempo* *ppp* *p*

*a tempo* *ppp* *pizz.* *p*

*a tempo* *p* *cresc.*

**For Perusal Only**

S  
of the cloud - folds her garments shak - en, *poco f*

A  
Out of the cloud - folds her garments sha - ken, *poco f*

T  
gar - ments shak - en, *poco f* O - ver the wood - lands brown and

B  
*mf* gar - ments shak - en, *poco f* O - ver the wood - lands brown and

*mf* *arc* *mf* *poco f*

*poco f*

For Perusal Only

33

O - ver har - vest - fields for -

O - ver the wood - lands brown and bare the

bare O - ver the har - vest - fields for -

bare O - ver the har - vest - fields for -

**For Perusal Only**

sak - en,

har - vest - fields for - sak - en, the

sak - en, O - ver the wood - lands brown and

sak - en, O - ver the wood - lands brown and

**For Perusal Only**



37

O - ver the wood - lands brown and bare  
 har - vest - fields for - sak - en,  
 bare O - ver the har - vest, o - ver the  
 bare O - ver the

**For Perusal Only**

8va  
 8va-



*p* *pp poco rit.*

fields for - sak - en, for - sak - en,

*mp* *pp poco rit.*

the har-vest-fields for - sak-en, for - sak - en,

*mp* *pp poco rit.*

har-vest - fields for - sak-en, for - sak - en,

*mp* *pp poco rit.*

har - vest - fields for - sak-en, for - sak - en,

*poco rit.*

*pp* *pizz.* *poco rit.*

*mp* *p*

*mp* *poco rit.*

**For Perusal Only**

42 *a tempo*

*arco* *p*

*pp* *a tempo*

*8va*

*8va*

*pp* *poco rit.*

*pp* *poco rit.*

*poco rit.*

50 *pp a tempo*

*pp a tempo*

Si - lent and soft and slow, Si - lent and soft and

*pp a tempo*

Si - lent and soft and slow, Si - lent and soft and

*pp a tempo*

Si - lent and soft and slow, Si - lent and soft and

*pp a tempo*

Si - lent and soft and slow, Si - lent and soft and

*ppp* *poco rit.*

*ppp* *poco rit.*

slow, Si - lent and soft and slow De - scends the

*ppp* *poco rit.*

slow, Si - lent and soft and slow De - scends the

*ppp* *poco rit.*

slow, Si - lent and soft and slow De - scends the

*ppp* *poco rit.*

slow, Si - lent and soft and slow De - scends the

56

*a tempo*

snow,

De-scends the snow,

*a tempo*

snow,

De-scends the snow,

*a tempo*

snow,

De-scends the snow,

*a tempo*

snow,

De-scends the snow,

*a tempo**pp**a tempo**pp**pp a tempo*







65

*ff* *poco rit.* *p*

snow, descends the

*ff* *poco rit.* *p*

snow, snow, descends the

*ff* *p*

snow, snow, descends the

*ff* *poco rit.* *p*

descends the snow, snow, descends the

*p* *mf* *f* *p* *poco rit.*

*ff* *mf*

*ff* *p* *poco rit.*

#### About the poet and notes from the composer

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882) was one of the foremost American poets of the nineteenth century. Widely traveled in Europe, he commanded numerous languages and was an adept translator. His best-known poems include "The Song of Hiawatha" and "The Ride of Paul Revere," from *Tales of a Wayside Inn*. "Snow-Flakes" was first published in his 1858 collection *Birds of Passage*.

Like many other nineteenth century poets, Longfellow used images of nature to explore states of mind. In "Snow-Flakes," snow serves as a metaphor for loss and bereavement. Houston's composition similarly evokes various aspects of the experience of snow—mysterious, majestic, serene, thrilling, and desolate—together with their associated emotional landscapes. The images that underlie the piece stem from Houston's childhood winters in Vermont.

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SA Unis. *ppp* *a tempo* *al niente* //

snow. \_\_\_\_\_

TB Unis. *ppp* *a tempo* *al niente* //

snow. \_\_\_\_\_

*a tempo* *pp* *pizz.* *L.V.* //

*a tempo* *pp* *downward roll* *ppp* *L.V.* //

The musical score is for a section in 3/4 time, marked *a tempo*. It features four staves: two vocal staves (SA Unis. and TB Unis.) and two piano accompaniment staves. The vocal parts consist of long, sustained notes with a slur, starting on a whole note and ending with a fermata. The piano accompaniment includes a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The score concludes with a double bar line and a fermata. Performance instructions include dynamics (*ppp*, *pp*), articulation (*pizz.*), and a *downward roll* in the final piano staff.