

HOLD FAST TO DREAMS, LaBarr
SBMP1882

T(B)B
piano

Hold Fast to Dreams

by
Susan LaBarr



Cameron LaBarr
CHORAL SERIES

Santa Barbara Music Publishing, Inc.

sbmp.com



About the composer

Susan LaBarr (b. 1981) is a composer and choral editor living and working in Springfield, Missouri. Her compositions are published by Walton Music, Morningstar Music, and Santa Barbara Music Publishing. Susan has completed commissions for choirs worldwide, most notably Seraphic Fire, the National ACDA Women's Choir Consortium, and the Texas Choral Director's Association's Director's Chorus. She served as the Missouri Composer Laureate for 2012 and 2013. Her arrangement of *Quem pastores laudavere* appeared on New York Polyphony's 2014 Grammy-nominated album, *Sing Thee Nowell*. Her work for mezzo soprano and piano, *Little Black Book*, was premiered at Carnegie Hall in October 2019.

Central to Susan's musical vocabulary is the knowledge she gained from studying with Alice Parker at her home in Hawley, Massachusetts, where she attended the Composer's Workshop and Melody Studies Workshop. Susan attended Missouri State University in Springfield, where she received a Bachelor of Arts in music and a Master of Music in music theory. Susan, her husband Cameron, and their son Elliott reside in Springfield, Missouri, where Cameron is the Director of Choral Studies at Missouri State University and Susan works as Editor of Walton Music.

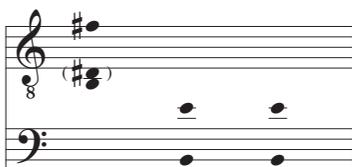
About the poet

Langston Hughes (1902-1967), in addition to achieving wide-spread fame for his poetry, was a novelist, columnist, playwright and essayist. He produced volumes of diverse genres and inspired the work of countless other African American writers.

Dreams

Hold fast to dreams
For if dreams die
Life is a broken-winged bird
That cannot fly.
Hold fast to dreams
For when dreams go
Life is a barren field
Frozen with snow.

Ranges



T B B

recording and rehearsal tracks
available at sbmp.com



Hold Fast to Dreams

Text by Langston Hughes

Music by Susan LaBarr
with adaptations by Parker Payne

♩ = 80

Piano *p*

Pedal harmonically

4 *mp*

7 *p* *pp* *noct* *a tempo*

11 *p*

T B

Hold fast to dreams For if dreams

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It begins with a tempo marking of quarter note = 80. The key signature has four sharps (F#, C#, G#, D#) and the time signature is 4/4. The piano part starts with a dynamic of *p* and includes the instruction 'Pedal harmonically'. The score is divided into systems, with measures 4, 7, and 11 marked. Dynamics include *mp*, *pp*, and *noct* (nocturno). The tempo changes from *a tempo* to *noct* and back to *a tempo*. The vocal line enters at measure 11 with the lyrics 'Hold fast to dreams For if dreams'.

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1882-3

14

die Life is a bro-ken-winged bird That can - not *

17

fly. Hold fast to

20

dreams For if dreams die Life is a

23

bro - ken - winged bird That can - not fly.

*Cue-sized notes throughout can be sung in addition to or instead of the main melody depending on the needs and range of the singers.

26

T *mp* Hold fast to —

B (melody) *mp* Hold fast to dreams

29

T dreams Hold (ly) Life is a bro-ken-winged

B For if dreams d Life is a

32

T bird That can - not fly.

B bird That can - not fly.

35

8

(melody)

Hold fast to — dreams *cresc.*

Hold fast to dreams For if dreams

cresc.

38

8

(melody)

Life is a bro - ken winged bird That can - not

die, — Life is a bird That can - not

mf

41

8

mp

fly.

mp

fly.

mp *molto cresc.*

43 (melody) *f*

T
8 Hold fast to dreams___ For___ when dreams

*B
f
Hold fast to dreams___ For when dreams

*B
f
Hold fast to dreams___ For___ when dreams

46

T
8 go Life is a bar - ren field___

*B
go Life is a bar - ren field___

*B
go Life is a bar - ren field___

*Choirs may sing all three parts or choose to omit either bass part, depending on the needs of the choir.

49

8

Fro-zen with snow... Hold fast to dreams...

Fro-zen with snow... Hold fast to dreams...

Fro-zen with snow... Hold fast to dreams...

52

8

— when dreams go

— For when dreams go

— For when dreams go

PREVIEW

55 *mp*

8 Life is a bar-ren field

8 Life is a bar-ren field

8 Life is a bar-ren field

mp

58

8 Fro-zen with

8 Fro-zen with snow.

8 Fro-zen with snow.

p

61

Musical notation for measures 61-63, piano accompaniment. The key signature has four sharps (F#, C#, G#, D#). The music features a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand.

64 **poco rit.**

Musical notation for measures 64-67, piano accompaniment. The tempo marking is **poco rit.**. The music continues with a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. There are *ped.* markings under measures 65, 66, and 67.

68 **a tempo**
p

T
8 Hold fast to dreams For if dreams

B
8 Hold fast to dreams For if dreams

pp

Pedal harmonically

Musical notation for measures 68-70. It includes vocal staves for Tenor (T) and Bass (B) and piano accompaniment. The tempo marking is **a tempo** and the dynamic is *p*. The lyrics are: "Hold fast to dreams For if dreams". The piano accompaniment is marked *pp* and includes the instruction *Pedal harmonically*.

71
8 die Life is a bro - ken-winged

8 die Life is a bro - ken-winged

Musical notation for measures 71-73. It includes vocal staves for Tenor (T) and Bass (B) and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "die Life is a bro - ken-winged".

73

bird That can - not fly.

bird That can - not fly.

76

mp Hold fast to dreams For if dreams

(melody) mp Hold fast to dreams For if dreams

mp

79

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p ————— *mp*

Not hurried

82
8

fly, _____ *p* A bro - ken - winged _____

fly, _____ *p* ————— *mp*

p

85
8

bird _____ That can not fly. _____

That can not fly. _____ *p*

pp

88
8

rit.

PREVIEW

