



Text by
Sarah Williams

Music by
Khyle B. Wooten



About the composer

Khyle Wooten (b.1988) a native of Philadelphia, PA, is Director of Choral Activities and Assistant Professor of Music Performance at Ithaca College. He leads a unique life in music as an educator, conductor, clinician, composer, and researcher. Previously, Wooten served as Associate Director of Choral Activities at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and has fulfilled prior K-12 teaching posts with charter schools in the cities of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Atlanta, Georgia. Further, they served as a music director in the Georgia and Florida Conferences of the United Methodist Church and several regions of The Fellowship of Affirming Ministries. Wooten is the Director of Music of Empowering Word Ministries in Philadelphia, PA, serving since 2009.



Wooten engages a vigorous schedule as guest conductor, presenter, consultant, and servant leader with various ensembles and choral organizations throughout the United States. He conducts ongoing research on the life and music of Lena McLin along with extended choral works of Black women composers. Continuing his McLin scholarship, he has recently published *A Building Without Walls: A Biography and Conductor's Analysis of Lena McLin's The Church Cantata* (The Choral Journal, 2023). They are an inaugural fellow of the Future of Music Faculty Fellowship with the Cleveland Institute of Music (2021) and an inaugural composition fellow with the New Canon Project (2023); a mentorship initiative jointly curated by the American Choral Directors Association and the American String Teachers Association. Wooten's body of compositions include commissions from the Ithaca College Treble Chorale, the Roane Choral Society, the Cincinnati Song Initiative, and the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra MINA String Quartet.

Wooten holds degrees in music education and choral conducting from Lincoln University of PA (BS), Georgia State University (MM), and Florida State University (PhD).

Movement II

Chimera (I Am Yours) is available digitally at SBMP.COM

Ranges



recording and rehearsal tracks available at sbmp.com

For the Ithaca College Treble Chorale, Dr. Sean Linfors, conductor.
Premiered at the 2026 Eastern Region Conference of the American Choral Directors Association

I Have Loved the Stars

Sarah Williams (1837-1868)

Khyle B. Wooten

Broadly, with conviction ♩ = 65

mp

S
Though my soul may set in dark - ness, my soul, my soul, my

mp

S
Though my soul may set in dark - ness, my soul, my soul, my

mp

A
Though my soul may set in dark - ness, my soul, my soul, my

mp

A
Though my soul may set in dark - ness, my soul, my soul, my

Piano

5

cresc. *mf*

soul in dark - ness, it will rise,

cresc. *mf*

soul in dark - ness, it will rise,

cresc. *mf*

soul in dark - ness, it will rise,

cresc. *mf*

soul in dark - ness, it will rise,

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9

rise in per - fect light.

rise in per - fect light.

rise in per - fect light.

rise in per - fect light.

mf

13

mf

17 *mf*

I have loved the stars. _____

mf

I have loved the stars. _____

mf

I have loved the stars. _____

mf

I have loved the stars. _____

19

I have loved the stars. _____

I have loved the stars. _____

I have loved the stars. _____

I have loved the stars. _____

I have loved the stars. _____

I have loved the stars. _____

21

I have loved the stars. _____

I have loved the stars. _____

Loved the stars too

Loved the stars too

23

I have loved the stars. _____

I have loved the stars. _____

fond - ly to be fear - ful.

fond - ly to be fear - ful.

25

Musical score for measures 25-26. The score is written for four vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "I have loved the stars." (Soprano), "I have loved the stars too" (Alto), "I have loved the" (Tenor), and "I have loved the stars." (Bass). The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

27

Musical score for measures 27-30. The score is written for four vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "I have loved the stars." (Soprano), "fond - ly." (Alto), "I have loved the" (Tenor), and "stars." (Bass). The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

29

Musical score for measures 29-30. The score is written for a vocal part (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The tempo is marked *poco rit.*. The lyrics are: "I have loved the stars." The melody is a simple, ascending line. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

I have loved the stars.

stars. I have loved the stars. I

I have loved,

I have loved,

31

*cresc.***poco rit.**

Musical score for measures 31-32. The score is written for a vocal part (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The tempo is marked *poco rit.*. The lyrics are: "I have loved the stars, the". The melody is a simple, ascending line. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

I have loved the stars, the

have loved the

I have loved the stars, the

I have loved the stars, the

a tempo

33 *f*

stars too fond - ly to be fear - ful of

stars too fond - ly to be fear - ful of

stars too fond - ly to be fear - ful of

stars too fond - ly to be fear - ful of

mf

36 *poco rit.*

night.

night.

night.

night.

39 *Alto solo* *mf* **Slower, toward mourning** ♩ = 70

Though my soul may set in dark - ness, _____

mp
(Hum)*

mp
(Hum)*

44

— though my soul may set — in — dark - ness, it will

PREVIEW

*The open-face hum from mm. 41-47 may be replaced by an “oo” vowel.

49

rise, it will rise, it will rise; _____ *f* End Solo

Ah, _____ *f* rise; _____

Ah, _____ *f* rise;

54 slightly faster to new tempo

S Rise in per - fect

S It will rise in light.

A Rise _____ in light.

A Rise in light. _____

f

Joyously once more! ♩ = 130

56

light.

I have loved the stars.

I have loved the stars too

I have loved the

ff

58

I have loved the stars.

fond - ly.

I have loved the

stars,

60

I have loved the stars too

I have loved the stars too

stars, loved the stars too

loved the stars too

62

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65

fear - ful of the night, to be fear - ful of the
 fear - ful of the night, to be fear - ful of the
 night, fear - ful of the night.
 night, fear - ful of the night.

68

night. *f* Though my soul set in dark - ness,
 night. *f* Though my soul set in dark - ness,
f Though my soul set in dark - ness,
f Though my soul set in dark - ness,

broadening greatly

71

my soul will rise!

my soul will rise!

my soul will rise!

my soul will rise!

my soul will rise!

Forward, with joy, to the end! ♩ = 130

75

Forward, with joy, to the end!

Forward, with joy, to the end!

Forward, with joy, to the end!

Forward, with joy, to the end!

Forward, with joy, to the end!



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