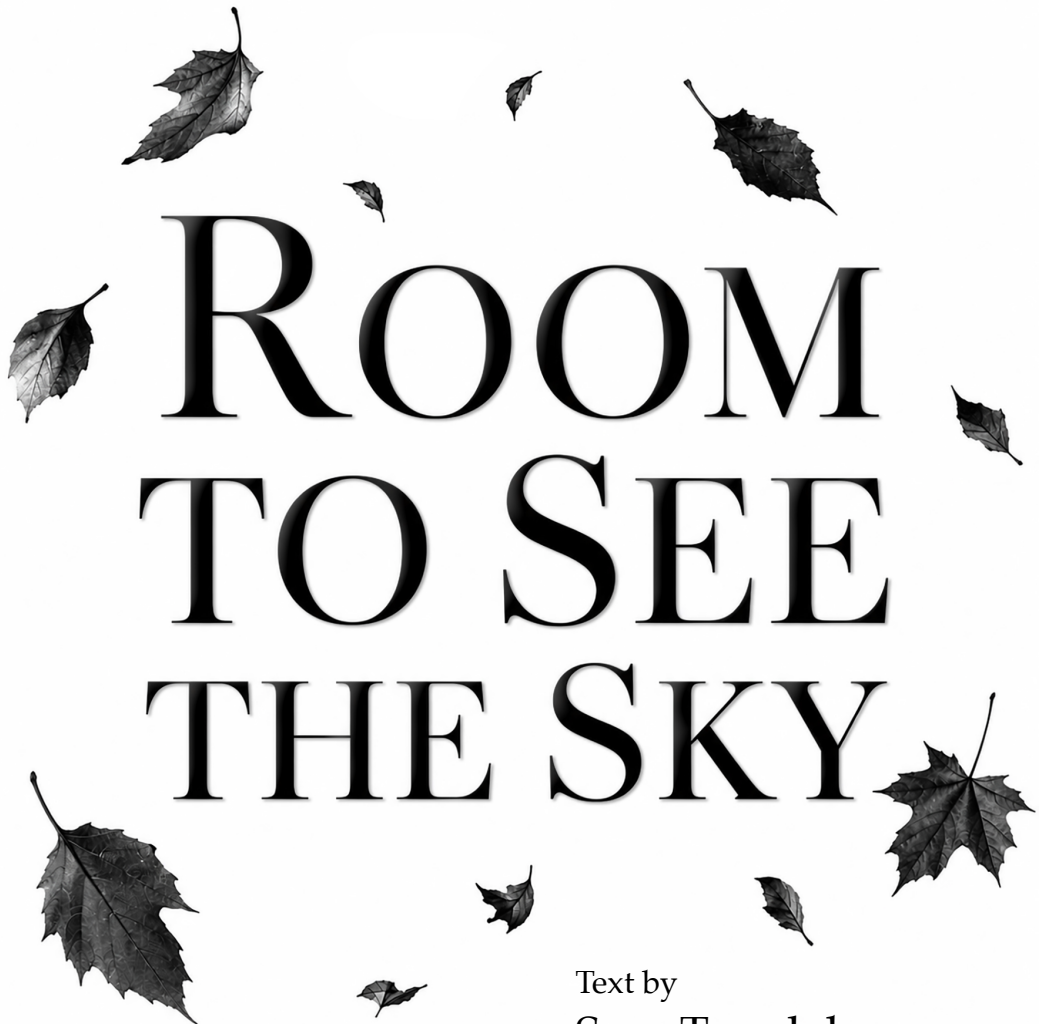


ROOM TO SEE THE SKY, Chapin
SBMP1903

SSA
piano, violin



ROOM TO SEE THE SKY

Text by
Sara Teasdale

Music by
Clelyn Chapin



Santa Barbara Music Publishing, Inc.

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About the composer

Dr. Clelyn Chapin (b. 1985) serves as the Associate Director of Choirs at University of Northern Colorado where she leads choral ensembles and teaches courses in choral music education. As a frequent presenter and clinician, Clelyn focuses on non-hierarchical rehearsal practices and making individual vocal technique accessible and efficient in the choral rehearsal. Her scholarly work centers on creating collaborative rehearsal spaces and amplifying the work of women composers. You can read her contributions in the recently published *Choral Literature of Women Composers* or listen to her performances with mirabai, a professional treble choir conducted by Sandra Snow, on Spotify. Before joining the faculty at UNC, Clelyn spent 14 years teaching and conducting secondary, collegiate, and community ensembles in Texas, Colorado, and Michigan. She completed her Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting at Michigan State University, studying under Dr. David Rayl and Dr. Sandra Snow, and holds a Master of Music Education from the University of Northern Colorado.



About the poet

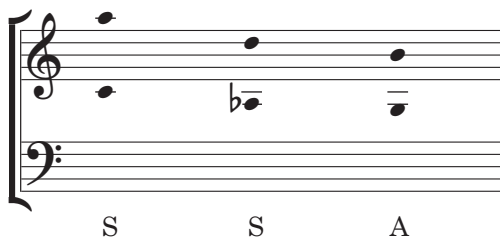
Sara Teasdale (1884–1933) was an American lyric poet known for her clear, intimate writing and her frequent use of natural imagery to explore inner emotional life. She often returned to themes of solitude, longing, and personal transformation, and her work reflects a tension between the comfort of familiar structures and the pull toward independence. In this poem, Teasdale traces a significant shift in perspective. While the poem opens with a sense of loss, the speaker quickly turns to the expanded horizon that the leaves, her former source of shelter, once hid from view.

Maturing toward independence can be both scary and exhilarating. In the music, you will find moments of excitement for what lies ahead alongside a quieter sense of loss for the safety we leave behind. As you rehearse this piece, take some time to feel both. Hold gratitude for the people and places that have protected you so far, and embrace the identity that is forming as you move into new challenges.

Text

One by one, like leaves from a tree,
All my faiths have forsaken me;
But the stars above my head
Burn in white and delicate red,
And beneath my feet the earth
Brings the sturdy grass to birth.
I who was content to be
But a silken-singing tree,
But a rustle of delight
In the wistful heart of night
I have lost the leaves that knew
Touch of rain and weight of dew.
Blinded by a leafy crown
I looked neither up nor down
But the little leaves that die
Have left me room to see the sky;
Now for the first time I know
Stars above and earth below.

Ranges



recording and rehearsal tracks
available at sbmp.com

Room to See the Sky

Sara Teasdale (1884-1933)

Clelyn Chapin

Driving ♩ = 76

Violin

Piano

mf

f

ped. simile

R.H.

ped. simile

ped. simile

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7

S

S

A

mf

One by one _____ like leaves from a

3

9

tree

All my faiths _____ have for - sak - en _____

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11

B

mf *cresc.*

mf *cresc.*

mf *cresc.*

me

But the stars a - bove my

But the stars a - bove my

me

13

head burn in white and del - i - cate red

head burn in white and del - i - cate red

cresc.

burn in white and del - i - cate red

15

mf And be-

mf And be-

mf And be-

3

17

neath my feet_ the earth_ brought the stur - dy grass_ to birth_

neath my feet_ the earth_ brought the stur - dy grass_ to birth_

neath_ the earth_ brought the grass_ to birth_

19

f *decresc.*

I who was con - tent to be but a silk - en sing - ing tree

f *decresc.*

I who was con - tent to be but a silk - en sing - ing tree

f *decresc.*

I who was con - tent to be Silk - en sing - ing

decresc.

21

rit.

C ♩. = 48

mf

silk - en sing - ing tree

silk - en sing - ing tree

tree tree

mp

24

mp

But a rus - tle of de -

mp

But a rus - tle of de -

28

mp

light in the wist - ful heart of night

light in the wist - ful heart of night

mp

Rus - tle of de - light Wist - ful

32

I have lost the leaves that knew touch of rain and

I have lost the leaves lost the leaves that knew

heart of night Lost the leaves that knew

36

weight of dew Blind - ed by a leaf - y

touch of rain and weight of dew Blind - ed by a leaf - y

touch of rain and weight of dew

rit.

D ♩ = 56

40

crown but the

crown but the

I looked nei - ther up nor down but the

p cresc.

p cresc.

p cresc.

p

43

p

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E ♩ = 76

45

f *mf*

sky See the

sky See the

sky See the

47

f

sky

sky

sky

sky

F

The musical score is for page 11, measures 45-47. It is written for a vocal ensemble and piano. The key signature is E major (one sharp). The tempo is marked as ♩ = 76. Measure 45 begins with a vocal entry in the soprano part, marked *f* (forte). The lyrics are 'sky'. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a similar pattern in the left hand. Measure 46 continues the vocal entries, with the lyrics 'See the'. The piano accompaniment remains the same. Measure 47 begins with a piano solo, marked *f*. The key signature changes to F major (one flat). The piano solo features a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. A large 'PREVIEW' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

49

Musical score for measures 49-50. Measure 49: Treble clef has a half note G4 with a natural sign, and a triplet of eighth notes (A4, B4, C5). Bass clef has a triplet of eighth notes (G3, A3, B3) and a half note C4. Measure 50: Treble clef has a half note Bb4. Bass clef has a triplet of eighth notes (Bb3, C4, D4) and a half note E4. A large 'PREVIEW' watermark is visible across the page.

51

Musical score for measures 51-52. Measure 51: Treble clef has a half note G4 with a natural sign, and a triplet of eighth notes (A4, B4, C5). Bass clef has a triplet of eighth notes (G3, A3, B3) and a half note C4. Measure 52: Treble clef has a half note Bb4. Bass clef has a triplet of eighth notes (Bb3, C4, D4) and a half note E4. A large 'PREVIEW' watermark is visible across the page.

53

Musical score for measures 53-54. Measure 53: Treble clef has a half note G4 with a natural sign, and a triplet of eighth notes (A4, B4, C5). Bass clef has a triplet of eighth notes (G3, A3, B3) and a half note C4. Measure 54: Treble clef has a half note Bb4. Bass clef has a triplet of eighth notes (Bb3, C4, D4) and a half note E4. A large 'PREVIEW' watermark is visible across the page.

G

56

mf One by one

mf One by one

f One by one like leaves from a

58

like leaves from a tree All my faiths

like leaves from a tree All my faiths have for - sak - en

tree All my faiths have for - sak - en

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60

have for - sak - en me But the stars a - bove my

me But the stars a - bove my

me But the stars a - bove my

62

head burn in white and del - i - cate red

head burn in white and del - i - cate red

head burn in white and del - i - cate red

H

64

And the lit - tle leaves that die leave me

And the lit - tle leaves that die leave me

And the lit - tle leaves that die leave me

66

room to see the sky

room to see the sky

room to see the sky, the

The musical score is written for piano and three voices. The piano part begins with a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand and a single eighth note in the left hand. The vocal parts enter with the lyrics 'And the lit - tle leaves that die leave me'. The piano part continues with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The vocal parts continue with the lyrics 'room to see the sky, the'. The piano part concludes with a final chord in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.



68

leave me room to see the

leave me room to see the

sky room to see see the

70

sky the sky!

sky the sky!

sky to see the sky!

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

ff

ff

ff