

CRAIG CARNAHAN MUSIC

CCM515



Craig Carnahan

*illuminArias*

S.A.T.B., piano



CRAIG CARNAHAN MUSIC  
craigcarnahan.com  
carnacraig@gmail.com

## *illuminArias*

### **1. The Falling Star**

I saw a star slide down the sky,  
Blinding the north as it went by,  
Too burning and too quick to hold,  
Too lovely to be bought or sold,  
Good only to make wishes on  
And then forever to be gone.

### **2. Less Than the Cloud to the Wind**

Less than the cloud to the wind,  
Less than the foam to the sea,  
Less than the rose to the storm,  
Am I to thee.

More than the star to the night,  
More than the rain to the tree,  
More than heaven to earth  
Art thou to me.

### **3. The Giver**

You bound strong sandals on my feet,  
You gave me bread and wine,  
And sent me under sun and stars,  
For all the world was mine.

Oh, take the sandals off my feet,  
You know not what you do;  
For all my world is in your arms,  
My sun and stars are you.

—Sara Teasdale

### **PROGRAM NOTE**

The Pulitzer Prize-winning American poet Sara Teasdale wrote and published nearly 400 poems. Many of them reflect a life that has been described as lonely and troubled. And even though she received public and critical acclaim, the tone of much of her writing was melancholy and grew increasingly dark. That was not true of all of her poetry, however. The three poems used here are passionate and unrestrained love songs, radiant with images of stars and the sun.

The title *illuminArias* was chosen for several reasons: It reflects the themes of light and illumination present in the poetry and calls to mind the lovely luminarias that light pathways in New Mexico and the southwest United States at Christmas. 'Arias' signifies the musical approach I took to setting these texts — namely, as solos. Often, the sections sing in unison before breaking into multiple parts. Not only does that underscore the intimate and personal nature of the poetry, it exploits the power of the ensemble singing together as one voice.

— Craig Carnahan

# illuminArias

Dedicated to the many devoted singers who continue to contribute to Arrowhead Chorale, now in its 27th year.

Sara Teasdale

Craig Carnahan (b. 1951)

## 1. The Falling Star (S.S.A.)

With measured emotion ♩=74

Soprano 1

Soprano 2

Alto

Piano

*mf*

5

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

S1

S2

A

Pno.

*mf*

I saw a star slide down the

I saw a star slide down the

I saw a star slide down the

c. 2:45 minutes

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10

S 1 *f*  
sky, Blind-ing the north as it went by,

S 2 *f*  
sky, Blind-ing the north as it went by,

A *f*  
sky, Blind-ing the north as it went by,

Pno. *mf*

14

S 1 *mp* *mf*  
I saw a star slide down the sky, the sky,

S 2 *mp* *mf*  
I saw a star slide down the sky, the sky,

A *mp* *mf*  
I saw a star slide down the sky, the sky,

Pno.

Musical score for vocalists S1, S2, and A, and piano accompaniment (Pno.). The score covers measures 18 to 22. The vocal parts (S1, S2, A) are in treble clef with a key signature of one flat and a time signature of 2/4. They feature a melodic line with a fermata at the end of measure 22. The piano accompaniment is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, featuring a more complex rhythmic pattern with triplets and slurs. Dynamics include *mf* and *mp*. A first ending bracket labeled 'I' spans the final measure of the vocal parts.

**Relaxed, conversational**

Musical score for vocalists S1, S2, and A, and piano accompaniment (Pno.). The score covers measures 23 to 27. The vocal parts (S1, S2, A) are in treble clef with a key signature of one flat and a time signature of 2/4. They feature a melodic line with lyrics and triplets. The piano accompaniment is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, featuring a rhythmic pattern with triplets and slurs. Dynamics include *mp* and *mf*. The tempo/mood is marked "Relaxed, conversational".

S1 saw a star slide down the sky, Blind-ing the north as it went by,

S2 saw a star slide down the sky, Blind-ing the north as it went by,

A saw a star slide down the sky, Blind-ing the north as it went by,

27

S 1 *mp* I saw a star — slide down the sky, *mf* Too

S 2 *p* I saw a star, I saw a

A *p* I saw a star, I saw a star,

Pno. *mp*

31

S 1 *mp* burn - ing and — too quick to hold, Too love - ly — to be bought or

S 2 *mp* star, I saw a star, Too love - ly — to be bought or

A *mp* I — saw a star, Too love - ly — to be bought or

Pno. *p*

53

S1  
ev - er to be gone. *f*

S2  
to be gone. *f*

A  
ev - er to be gone. *f*

Pno. *f* *mp*

57

S1 *rall.*

S2 *rall.*

A *rall.*

Pno. *rall.* *p* R.H. L.H.

## 2. Less Than the Cloud to the Wind (T.B.B.)

Sustained and reflective ♩ = 78

Tenor

Baritone

Bass

Sustained and reflective ♩ = 78

Piano

T

B

B

Pno.

Less than the cloud ——— to the

Less than the cloud ——— to the

Less than the cloud ——— to the

c. 2:30 minutes



8

T  
8  
wind, \_\_\_\_\_ Less than the foam — to — the

B  
wind, \_\_\_\_\_ Less than the foam — to the

B  
wind, \_\_\_\_\_ Less than the foam — to — the

Pno.

12

T  
8  
sea, \_\_\_\_\_ *mf* Less than the rose — to — the storm, \_\_\_\_\_

B  
sea. \_\_\_\_\_ *mf* Less than the rose — to — the storm, \_\_\_\_\_

B  
sea, \_\_\_\_\_ *mf* Less than the rose — to — the storm, Am I to

Pno.

32 *f*

T  
8 More than the star \_\_\_\_\_ to the night, \_\_\_\_\_

B  
*f* More than the star \_\_\_\_\_ to the night, \_\_\_\_\_

B  
*f* More than the star \_\_\_\_\_ to the night, \_\_\_\_\_

Pno.  
*f*

36 *mf* *f*

T  
8 More than the rain \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ the tree, \_\_\_\_\_ More than

B  
*mf* *f* More than the rain \_\_\_\_\_ to the tree, \_\_\_\_\_ More than

B  
*mf* *f* More than the rain \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ the tree, \_\_\_\_\_ More than

Pno.  
*mf* *f*

40

*molto rit.* **Slightly slower, dolce** *mp*

T  
8  
hea - ven to earth \_\_\_\_\_ Art thou to

B  
*molto rit.* *mp*  
hea - ven to earth \_\_\_\_\_ Art thou to me.

B  
*molto rit.*  
hea - ven to earth \_\_\_\_\_

Pno.  
*molto rit.* *mp* **Slightly slower, dolce**

46

*p rit.*

T  
8  
me. \_\_\_\_\_ Art thou to me.

B  
*p rit.*  
Art thou to me.

B  
*mp* *p rit.*  
Art thou to me. \_\_\_\_\_ Art thou to me.

Pno.  
*p rit.*

### 3. The Giver (S.A.T.B.)

**Longingly** ♩ = 72

*mf*

Soprano  
Alto  
Tenor  
Bass

You bound strong san-dals  
You bound strong san-dals

*p*  
hum \_\_\_\_\_

**Longingly** ♩ = 72

*mf*

Piano

The musical score is for a four-part vocal ensemble (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and Piano. The piece is titled '3. The Giver (S.A.T.B.)' and is marked 'Longingly' with a tempo of ♩ = 72. The score is in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The vocal parts enter in the fifth measure with the lyrics 'You bound strong san-dals'. The Soprano and Alto parts are marked *mf*, while the Bass part is marked *p* and includes a hum. The Piano accompaniment begins in the first measure with a *mf* dynamic. The score consists of five measures, with the vocal parts continuing through the fifth measure.

c. 4 minutes

5

S  
on my feet, You gave me bread and wine, \_\_\_\_\_ And sent me un - der

A  
on my feet, You gave me bread wine, \_\_\_\_\_ And sent me un - der

T  
*p*  
hum \_\_\_\_\_ hum \_\_\_\_\_

B  
hum \_\_\_\_\_

Pno.

10

S  
sun and stars, \_\_\_\_\_ For all the world was mine. \_\_\_\_\_

A  
sun and stars, \_\_\_\_\_ For all the world was mine. \_\_\_\_\_

T  
8  
For all the world was mine. \_\_\_\_\_

B  
For all the world was mine. \_\_\_\_\_

Pno.

*rall. mp* *a tempo*

*rall. mp* *a tempo*

*rall. mp* *a tempo*

*rall. mp* *a tempo*

*rall.* *a tempo*

26

S

A

T

B

Pno.

all the world was mine.

all the world was mine.

*mp*

32

S

A

T

B

Pno.

*Tenderly* *mf*

Oh, take the san-dals off my feet, — You know not — what you

*mf*

Oh, take the san-dals off my feet, — You know not — what you

*mf*

Oh, take the san-dals off my feet, — You know not — what you

*mf*

Oh, take the san-dals off my feet, — You know not — what you

*Tenderly* *mf*

37 *mp*

S do; For all my world is in your arms, My sun and

A do; For all my world is in your arms, My sun and

T do; For all my world \_\_\_\_\_ is in your arms, My sun and

B do; For all my world is in your arms, My sun and stars \_\_\_\_\_

Pno. *mp*

42 *rall.* *p* *a tempo*

S stars are you. Oh, take the sandals off my feet, You know not what you

A stars are you. Oh, take the sandals off my feet, You know not what you

T stars are you. Oh, take the sandals off my feet, You know not what you

B \_\_\_\_\_ are you. Oh, take the sandals off my feet, You know not what you

Pno. *rall.* *a tempo*

58

**Freely**

S  
My sun and stars are you. *p* *pp*

A  
My sun and stars are you. *p* *pp*

T  
My sun and stars are you. *p* *pp*

B  
My sun and stars are you. *p* *pp*

Pno.  
*mp* *p* *pp*