

Winter Walk
SATB a cappella

Timothy C. Takach

pdf download - \$1.60
printed - \$3.00



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Winter Walk from *The Longest Nights*

for SATB a cappella choir

- I. A Winter's Spell (Silvestri)
- II. After Harvest (Raymond)
- III. Many-Splendored Thing (Gruchow)
- IV. Blizzard (Liiv)
- V. Winter Walk (Newhouse)**
- VI. Last Night's Moon (King, Liiv)
- VII. Returning (Berry)



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Commissioning Choirs:

Marion High School Musica di Vita and Bella Voce, AR; Johnny Peoples
Catalina Foothills High School, AZ; Leah Seitz
Irvine High School, CA; Tina Glander Peterson
Cherry Creek High School Meistersingers, CO; Sarah Harrison
Connecticut College Choirs, CT; Wendy Moy
Lake Nona High School Chorus, FL; Justin Chase & Sheryl Carbonell
CORO, GA; Philip Moody
Mason City High School Concert Choir, IA; Joel & Rachel Everist, Sarah Bouska
Eagle High School, ID; Seth McMullen
Northern Illinois University Concert Choir, IL; Eric A. Johnson, DMA
University of Notre Dame, IN; Carmen Helena-Tellez
Lawrence Free State High School, KS; Hilary Morton
Eastern Kentucky University Concert Choir, KY; Richard Waters
Prisma Vocal Ensemble, LA; Adam Philley & Costas Dafnis
The Oriana Consort, MA; Walter Chapin & Caroline Harvey
Walter Johnson High School Choirs, MD; Kelly Butler
Yarmouth High School Chamber Choir, ME; Rick Dustin
Interlochen Arts Academy, MI; John Bragle
Armstrong High School Choirs, MN; Stephanie Trump & Tony Rangel
Chapel Choir and Men's Chorus of William Jewell College, MO;
Dr. Anthony J. Maglione & Nicole Murray
Great Falls High School Delphian Choir, MT; Patrick Ryan
Chapel Hill High School Chamber Choir, NC; Jeremy Nabors
West Fargo Sheyenne High School Concert Choir, ND; Anthony Peterson
Lincoln East High School, NE; Brett D. Epperson
Keene High School Music Program, NH; Thomas R. Martin
South Hunterdon Regional High School Chorus, NJ; Erika Krimm
Oñate High School Choral Department, NM; Ryan Fellman
Horace Greeley High School Choir, NY; Maureen Callan
Bexley High School Vocal Ensemble, OH; Amy Blosser
Edmond Santa Fe High School Choir, OK; Shermie Potts
Corvallis High School Choirs, OR; Aubrey Patterson
Fox Chapel Area High School Choirs, PA; Benjamin Murray
Hanahan High School Choral Programs, SC; Lindsay Brazell
Lincoln High School Choral Department, SD; Linda Conrad & Kathy Ferguson
Rhodes College, Rhodes Singers, TN; William Skoog
Flower Mound High School, TX; Mark Rohwer, Ph.D.
The Wesleyan Singers of Virginia Wesleyan College, VA; Bryson Mortensen
Champlain Valley Union Singers, VT; Carl Recchia
Moses Lake High School Choir, WA; David Holloway
New Richmond High School Kammerchor, WI; Andy Schroetter
Parkersburg South Choral Department, WV; Melissa Life
Laramie High School Combined Choirs, WY; Michael K. Hancey

Texts:

V. Winter Walk

The longest night
The brightest moon
The sharpest sting of cold
The barest branch
The hardest earth
My breath the only cloud

And I am out walking to ask the winter moon:
Who will I be when the spring rains come?

The air so still
Smoke rising straight
The snowbanks sleep so deep
The quiet star
The silent night
A lone bird wakes and sings

And I am out walking to hear my heart,
And I am out walking to hear my heart.

- *Brian Newhouse (commissioned for this piece)*

From the Composer:

I've always imagined the winter months as the bottom third of a circle, dipping lowest at the new year and then coming back up to find Spring. There was never any negativity or depression attached to that image, but I do think it's neat to think about the act of journeying through Winter as a descent of sorts. We dig deep, we nestle ourselves in, we maintain until it's safe to come out. The texts and music in this piece touch on that idea—that we have to endure, we have to stay strong through the turning of the year. The images of hibernation and metamorphosis come to mind as well—will we be the same person on the other side? Or do we grow? Do we change?

In 2014 Brian Newhouse sent me a piece he had written, and I asked if he would be willing to take two lines from that piece and expand it into a poem for this cycle. He agreed and came up with the wonderful poem "Winter Walk." I imagine this poem falling in the middle of the season, at the peak (or the bottom of my imagined circle, as I mentioned above) of the journey through the darkness. And here we have the main idea of the cycle. The cold and quiet offer us a chance to look inside of ourselves. And if we listen and decide to follow our hearts, who will we be when we come through on the other side? I imagine that we come out as better, stronger versions of ourselves.

- *Timothy C. Takach, 2015*

V. Winter Walk

for SATB a cappella choir

Brian Newhouse

Timothy C. Takach

Tempo: ♩ = 88 **Dynamic:** *mp*

Measures 1-5: Soprano and Alto parts: The long - est night The bright - est moon The
Tenor and Bass parts: The long - est night The bright - est moon The

Measures 6-9: SA: sharp - est sting of cold, of cold, of cold
TB: sharp - est sting of cold, of cold, of cold

Measures 10-14: SA: The bar - est branch The hard - est earth My
TB: The bar - est branch The hard - est earth My

Tempo: *p*



15 *mp* *ritard* **Warmly** *mf* = 76

SA breath the on - ly cloud, the on - ly cloud And I am

TB breath the on - ly cloud, the on - ly cloud

19 *mf* *f* *sub. mp*

SA out walk - ing to ask the win - ter moon, to

TB out walk - ing to ask the win - ter moon, to

(add a few basses if needed for balance)

23 *f*

SA ask the win - ter moon: Who will I be when the

TB ask the win - ter moon: Who will I be when the

26 *mf* *mp*

SA spring rains come? Who will I be, who will I be?

TB spring rains come? Who will I be, who will I be?

29 $\text{♩} = 88$
mp

SA
 The air so still Smoke ris - ing straight The

TB
p (Oo...Oh...Rr...Ee...)
 Oo...

(half the section should sing overtones, including some lower voices if they are skilled at it. Don't exceed the written dynamic.)

34 *mp*

SA
 snow - banks sleep so deep, so deep, so deep

TB

38 *p* *mp*

SA
 The qui - et star The si - lent night A

TB
niente

43 *mf* *ritard* Warmly $\text{♩} = 76$ *mf*

SA
 lone bird wakes and sings Mm... And I am out walk - ing

TB
mp *mf*
 Mm... out walk - ing

48

SA *f* to *sub. mp* to hear my heart, to hear my

TB *f* *sub. mp* to hear my heart, to hear my

52

SA heart, *f* And I am out to hear my heart, to

TB heart, *f* And I am out to hear my heart, to

55

SA *mp* hear my heart. Ah! *p* Ah!

TB *mp* hear my heart. Ah! *p* Ah!

60

SA *mp* to hear my heart. *ritard* *p*

TB *mp* to hear my heart. *p*



Reviewed as “gorgeous” (Washington Post) and “stunning” (Lawrence Journal-World), the music of Timothy C. Takach has risen fast in the concert world. Applauded for his melodic lines and rich, intriguing harmonies, Takach has received commissions from the St. Olaf Band, Cantus, Pavia Winds, Lorelei Ensemble, VocalEssence, the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, The Rose Ensemble, and numerous other organizations. His compositions have been performed on A Prairie Home Companion, The Boston Pops holiday tour, multiple All-State and festival programs and at venues such as the Library of Congress, Kennedy Center and Royal Opera House Muscat. He is a co-creator of the theatrical production of All is Calm: the Christmas Truce of 1914, by Peter Rothstein.

Takach studied music composition at St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN, where he graduated with honors. He has frequent national work as a composer-in-residence, presenter, clinician and lecturer. He is a full-time composer and lives in Minneapolis with his wife and two sons.

Selected vocal works by Timothy C. Takach:

Mixed Voices

A Depth We Cannot Sound		SATB, vibraphone, marimba, large tom
A Worshipper and a Man		SATB a cappella
And I Saw		SATB div. a cappella
As the Sunflower Turns on Her God		SSAATBB div, Sop. solo, SSATB soli, a cappella
The Darkling Thrush	(earthsongs)	SATB, SAT soli, a cappella
Fragile		SATB, hand drum
Listen to the Apples		SATB div. a cappella
Neither Angels, Nor Demons, Nor Powers	(Graphite Publishing)	SSATBB a cappella
Nubes Oriebatur: the eruption of Vesuvius		SSATBB a cappella
One Boy Told Me		SATB, piano
Su Rahva Koda (The House of Your Kindred)		SSAATTBB a cappella
This Alien Landscape		SATB, crotales, suspended cymbal, bass drum
This Amazing Life		SA(T)B, piano
We Are Lost, We Are Lucky		SATB, piano
We Sing of Home (Finlandia)		SATB a cappella

Treble Voices

And I Saw		SSAA div. a cappella
Cassiopeia		SSA a cappella
Goodbye, Then		SSA choir, Bb clarinet, piano
Home on the Range (arr. American Folk Song)	(Graphite Publishing)	2-part treble, piano
Queen of the Range	(Graphite Publishing)	SA, piano
Serenade	(Graphite Publishing)	SSAA a cappella
The Streets of Laredo (arr. American Folk Song)	(Graphite Publishing)	Unison, TTb, piano
There is No Rose	(Lorelei Ensemble)	SSAA, SS soli, a cappella
Torn Map	(Graphite Publishing)	SA, piano
Twenty Questions		2-part treble, piano

Men's Voices

Empty		TB (opt. div), piano, opt. djembe
Goodbye, Then		TBB choir, Bb clarinet, piano
I Will Howl		TBB choir, piano or cello
Kin		TB, piano
Luceat Eis		TTTBB a cappella
Mad		TB, piano
Original Harmony	(Colla Voce)	TTBB a cappella
Rough Beast	(Jeremy D. Jones Male Choral Series)	TTBB, percussion
Salve Regina	(Graphite Publishing)	TBB semi-chorus, TTBB a cappella
Things I Didn't Know I Loved	(Graphite Publishing)	TTBB a cappella

Large Works

We Made a Grave For Him, And Her Smoke Rose Up Forever (ca. 10')		TTBB a cappella
The Longest Nights (ca. 21')		SATB, piano or string quartet
Where Beauty Comes From (ca. 16')		TBB, 2-part, SSAA, SATB; piano