

I Thread the Stars
SATB choir, piano 4 hands

Timothy C. Takach

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I Thread the Stars

for SATB choir and piano 4 hands

Commissioned by the Foundation for Eden Prairie Schools for the Eden Prairie School District Secondary Choirs.
World Premiere January 13, 2014



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Text:

I am the flash of sun on water.
I am the clash of battle swords.
I am the teeth in the sea-shark's mouth.
I am the blood of wild beasts.
I am the fire in the witch's hearth.
I am the evening sky ablaze—
The red of serpents' tongues,
The black of deepest night.
I am a mare that knows no reins.

I thread the stars across the sky.
I am the kiss of lovers' lips.
I am the mortar and the stone.
I am the song of my homeland.

I am the wind on the sea
I am the bow of every ship.
I am the ocean waves.
I am the foam upon the sea.
I am a lake on a plain.
I am the green of the fairest hill.
I am dewdrop, a tear of the sun.
I am a lily on a still pond.
I am the heir of harmony.
I am a word of skill.
I am the silence of things secret.

I am the roar of the sea.
I am a bull of seven fights.
I am a hawk on a cliff.
I rove the hills, a ravaging boar.
I am lightning that blasts the trees.
I am thunder on the mountains.
I am a God that fashions fire for a head.
I am a dragon that eats the sky.

I thread the stars across the sky.
I am the kiss of lovers' lips.
I am the mortar and the stone.
I am the song of my homeland.

*-from "Amergin and Cessair," Traditional
-adapted by Michael Meade and Erica Helm Meade
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I Thread the Stars

for SATB choir and piano 4 hands

Traditional, trans. Michael Meade and Erica Helm Meade

Timothy C. Takach (2013)

Piano 1

Piano 2

$\bullet = 112$

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Pno. 1

Pno. 2

7

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12 *mf*

S I am the flash of sun on wa - ter. I am the clash of bat - tle swords. —

A I am the flash of sun on wa - ter. I am the clash of bat - tle swords. —

T I am the flash of sun on wa - ter. I am the clash of bat - tle swords. —

B I am the flash of sun on wa - ter. I am the clash of bat - tle swords. —

Pno. 1 *mf*

Pno. 2 *mf*

(8va) —————

(8vb) —————

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14 *f*

S I am the teeth in the sea-shark's mouth. I am the blood of wild beasts.

A I am the teeth in the sea-shark's mouth. I am the blood of wild beasts.

T I am the teeth in the sea-shark's mouth. I am the blood of wild beasts.

B I am the teeth in the sea-shark's mouth. I am the blood of wild beasts.

Pno. 1 *f*

Pno. 2 *f*

(8va) —————

(8vb) —————

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Piano score for measures 17-21. Pno. 1 (right hand) starts with a *f* dynamic, then *mp*, and ends with *mf*. Pno. 2 (left hand) starts with a *f* dynamic and ends with *mf*. The music is in 12/8 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#).

Piano score for measures 22-25. Pno. 1 (right hand) starts with a *f* dynamic and ends with *mf*. Pno. 2 (left hand) starts with a *f* dynamic and ends with *mf*. The music is in 12/8 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#).

Vocal and piano score for measures 26-30. The vocal parts (Soprano and Alto) have lyrics: "I am the fire in the witch's hearth. I am the". The piano accompaniment includes a *ritard* marking and a tempo change to $\text{♩} = 96$. Dynamics range from *mf* to *p*. The piano part includes a *8va* marking and a fermata. The music is in 12/8 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#).

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30 *mp* *f*

S eve - ning sky a - blaze

A eve - ning sky a - blaze

T *mp* (but intense)

B *mp* (but intense) The red of ser - pents' tongues,

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30 *mf* *p* *mp* *p*

Pno. 1

Pno. 2 *mf* *mp* *p*

Sub
Pedal sim.

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34

S

A *mp* I am the teeth and the blood and the fire and

T *f* *mp* *mf* The black of deep - est night. I am the teeth and the blood and the fire and

B *f* *mp* *mf*

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34 *mf* *mp* *mp*

Pno. 1

Pno. 2 *f* *mp* *mp*

Sub

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38 *f* ♩ = 84

S
I am a mare that knows no reins.

A
I am a mare that knows no reins.

T
I am a mare that knows no reins.

B
I am a mare that knows no reins.

Pno. 1
f *f* *mp*

Pno. 2
f *mp* warmly R.H. R.H. L.H. L.H.

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42

S *mf* I thread the stars a-cross the

A *mf* I thread the stars a-cross the

T *mf* I thread the stars a-cross the

B *mf* I thread the stars a-cross the

42 (S^{va})

Pno. 1

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42

Pno. 2

Pedal sim.

45

S *p* sky. I am the kiss of lov-ers' lips. I am the

A *p* sky. I am the kiss of lov-ers' lips. I am the

T *p* sky. I am the kiss of lov-ers' lips. I am the

B *p* sky. I am the kiss of lov-ers' lips. I am the

45 (S^{va})

Pno. 1

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45

Pno. 2

mp *p*

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48

S mor - tar and the stone. I am the song of my

A mor - tar and the stone. I am the song of my

T mor - tar and the stone. I am the song of my

B mor - tar and the stone. I am the song of my

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Pno. 1 *cresc.*

Pno. 2 *cresc.*
Pedal sim.

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51

S home - land.

A home - land.

T home - land.

B home - land.

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Pno. 1 *f* *mp*

Pno. 2 *f* *mf* *mp*

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$\text{♩} = 80$

54 (8va) *p*

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

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59 *mp*

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

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64 *mp* lyrical *mf*

S

A

T

B

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64 *mp*

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

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68

S
— of eve - ry — ship. I am the o - cean waves.

A
— of eve - ry — ship. I am the o - cean waves.

T
— of eve - ry — ship. I am the o - cean waves.

B
— of eve - ry — ship. I am the o - cean waves.

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

73

S
I am the foam up-on the sea. I am a

A
I am the foam up-on the sea. I am a

T
I am the foam up-on the sea. I am a

B
I am the foam up-on the sea. I am a

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

9

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78

S lake on a plain. I am the green of the fair-est hill. Mm... *mp* *p* *pp*

A lake on a plain. I am the green of the fair-est hill. I am *mp* *p* *mp*

T lake on a plain. I am the green of the fair-est hill. I am *mp* *p* *pp*

B lake on a plain. I am the green of the fair-est hill. Mm... *mp* *p* *pp*

(Sua) -----

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Pno. 1

78

(Sua) -----

Pno. 2

78

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82

S I am a lil-y on a still pond. *mf* *p*

A dew-drop, a tear of the sun. I am a lil-y on a still pond. *mf* *p*

T dew-drop, a tear of the sun. I am a lil-y on a still pond. *mf* *p*

B I am a lil-y on a still pond. *mf* *p*

(Sua) -----

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Pno. 1

82

(Sua) -----

Pno. 2

82

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86

S I am the heir of har - mon - y. I am a word of

A I am the heir of har - mon - y. I am a word of

T I am the heir of har - mon - y. I am a word of

B I am the heir of har - mon - y. I am a word of

mf *mp*

93

S skill. I am the si - lence of things se - cret.

A skill. I am the si - lence of things se - cret.

T skill. I am the si - lence of things se - cret.

B skill. I am the si - lence of things se - cret.

mf *p* *pp*

99 $\bullet = 112$

S

A

T

B

pp *p*

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

pp *p*

8vb -----

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103 *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

(8va)-----

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107 *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

S
I am the roar of the sea. — I am a bull of sev - en fights. —

A
I am the roar of the sea. — I am a bull of sev - en fights. —

T
I am the roar of the sea. — I am a bull of sev - en fights. —

B
I am the roar of the sea. — I am a bull of sev - en fights. —

(8va)-----

107 *mf* *mf*

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

(8va)-----

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109

S
I am a hawk on a cliff. I rove the hills, a rav-en-ing boar.

A
I am a hawk on a cliff. I rove the hills, a rav-en-ing boar.

T
I am a hawk on a cliff. I rove the hills, a rav-en-ing boar.

B
I am a hawk on a cliff. I rove the hills, a rav-en-ing boar.

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

109

112

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

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116

Pno. 1

mf *f* *mf*

Pno. 2

116

f *mp*

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120

mf $\text{♩} = 96$

S

I am light - ning that blasts the trees. I am thun - der on the moun -

A

I am light - ning that blasts the trees. I am thun - der on the moun -

Pno. 1

p *mf*

Pno. 2

120

mf

Pedal sim. *Sub*

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124

S

A

T

B

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

127

S

A

T

B

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

15

f

f

mf

mf

mp

mf

mp

p

f

gliss.

f

mf

f

mf

tains.

tains.

I am a God that fash - ions fire for a head.

I am the wind and the word and the kiss and the song and

I am the wind and the kiss and the song and

I am a drag-on that eats the sky.

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130

S *f*
I thread the stars a-cross the sky. I thread the stars a-cross the

A *f*
I thread the stars a-cross the sky. I thread the stars a-cross the

T *f*
I thread the stars a-cross I am the wind and the word and the song and I thread the stars a-cross the

B *f*
I thread the stars a-cross I am the wind and the song and I thread the stars a-cross the

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Pno. 1 *f*

Pno. 2 *f*

133

S *mp* sky. I am the song of my home - land. *mf* I am the song of my home - land. _

A *mp* sky. I am the song of my home - land. *mf* I am the song of my home - land. _

T *mp* sky. I thread the stars I am the song of my home - land. *mf* I am the song of my home - land. _

B *mp* sky. I thread the stars I am the song of my home - land. *mf* I am the song of my home - land. _

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Pno. 1 *mp* *mf*

Pno. 2 *mp* *mf*

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136 *f* *ff*

S I am the song of my home - land. — I am the song! I am the song! I am the

A I am the song of my home - land. — I am the song! I am the song! I am the

T I am the song of my home - land. — I am the song! I am the song! I am the

B I am the song of my home - land. — I am the song! I am the song! I am the

136 (8va) *f* *ff*

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136 *f* *ff*

Pno. 2 Pedal sim. Timothy C Takach.com

139 *fff*

S song! I am the song!

A song! I am the song!

T song! I am the song!

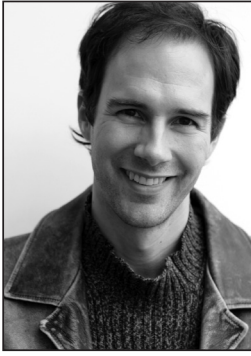
B song! I am the song!

139 (8va) *fff*

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139 *fff*

Pno. 2



Reviewed as “gorgeous” (Washington Post) and “stunning” (Lawrence Journal-World), the music of Timothy C. Takach is rapidly gaining momentum in the concert world. Applauded for his melodic lines and rich, intriguing harmonies, Takach has received a number of commissions from various organizations including the St. Olaf Choir, Cantus, Pavia Winds, the Bowling Green State University Men’s Chorus, The Singers: Minnesota Choral Artists, the Cherry Creek High School Meistersingers, the New Mexico Gay Men’s Chorus and the Western Michigan University Chorale. His compositions have been heard on NPR and have been recorded by various groups in North America.

The 2007 Texas and the 2009 Florida All-State Choirs performed his piece “The Darkling Thrush,” and his arrangement of “What Child is This” was featured on the 2007 Boston Pops holiday tour. Takach has been awarded grants from the American Composers Forum and Meet the Composer, and yearly ASCAP awards since 2004. Takach received a BA in Music Theory and Composition at St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN, where he graduated with honors. He lives in Minneapolis with his wife and two sons.

Selected vocal works by Timothy C. Takach:

Mixed Voices	A Depth We Cannot Sound (2011)		SATB, vibraphone, marimba, large tom
	A Sign of Day to Come (2003)	(Graphite Publishing)	SATB a cappella
	A Worshipper and a Man (2010)		SATB a cappella
	All Sisters and Brothers (2012)		SATB, 2 trumpets, organ
	As the Sunflower Turns on Her God (2007)		SSAATBB div, Sop. solo, SSATB soli, a cappella
	The Darkling Thrush (2004)	(earthsongs)	SATB, SAT soli, a cappella
	From the Regions of Air (2010)		SATB a cappella
	Epitaph (2012)		SATB, viola
	I Leave, She Stays (2011)		SATB a cappella
	Neither Angels, Nor Demons, Nor Powers (2008)	(Graphite Publishing)	SSATBB a cappella
	Nubes Oriebatur: the eruption of Vesuvius (2009)		SSATBB a cappella
	One Boy Told Me (2011)		SATB, piano
	Something There is Immortal (2008)		SSATBB a cappella
	‘Twas in the Moon of Wintertime (2005) Huron Carol	(Graphite Publishing)	SATB a cappella
What I Have Done (2011) Amazing Grace/House of the Rising Sun		SATB a cappella	
Where Beauty Comes From (2010)		SATB, piano	
Treble Voices	And I Saw (2012)		SSAA div. a cappella
	Before We Get Dusty (2010)		SSAA, piano
	Cassiopeia (2013)		SSA a cappella
	Home on the Range (2007) American Folk Song	(Graphite Publishing)	2-part treble voices, piano
	Queen of the Range (2006)	(Graphite Publishing)	SA choir, piano
	Serenade (2002)	(Graphite Publishing)	SSAA a cappella
	She Moved Through the Fair (2009) Irish Ballad		SSAA a cappella
	The Streets of Laredo (2007) American Folk Song	(Graphite Publishing)	Unison, TTB, piano
Twenty Questions (2010)		2- part treble, piano	
Men’s Voices	And Her Smoke Rose Up Forever (2007)		TTTBB a cappella
	Empty (2012)		TB (opt. div), piano, opt. djembe
	Go (2012)		TB, hand drum, wood block or clapping
	Goodbye, Then (2012)		TBB choir, Bb clarinet, piano
	I Will Howl (2007)		TBB choir, piano or cello
	It Is Not the Fact That I Will Die That I Mind (2012)		TB, piano
	Luceat Eis (2010)		TTTBB a cappella
	O Tannenbaum (2007) German Christmas Carol		TBB a cappella
	Paper Cranes (2010)		TBB, piano
	Salve Regina (2012)	(Graphite Publishing)	TBB semi-chorus, TTBB chorus a cappella
	She Moved Through the Fair (1998) Irish Ballad	(Neil A. Kjos Music Co.)	TBB a cappella
	Things I Didn’t Know I Loved (2001)	(Graphite Publishing)	TTBB a cappella
	‘Twas in the Moon of Wintertime (2006) Huron Carol		TTBB a cappella
	Veni Creator Spiritus (1998)	(Graphite Publishing)	TTBB a cappella
We Made a Grave For Him (2013)		TTBB a cappella	
What Child is This (2000) Traditional	(Neil A. Kjos Music Co.)	TTBB a cappella	
What I Have Done (2003) Amazing Grace/House of the Rising Sun		TTTBBB a cappella	