

To the Townspeople of Amherst, Massachusetts, 1759-1959

Choose Something Like a Star*

four-part chorus of women's voices with piano or band or orchestra

Robert Frost

Randall Thompson

Larghetto (♩ = 60)

pp

Soprano I

Soprano II

Alto I

Alto II

Piano

5

pp

Star, O Star

pp the fair-est one in sight, We grant your

pp the fair-est one in sight, We grant your

pp the fair-est one in sight, We grant your

pp

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10

pp

O Star,

loft-i-ness the right. To some ob-scur-i-ty of

loft-i-ness the right. To some ob-scur-i-ty of

loft-i-ness the right. To some ob-scur-i-ty of

15

pp

O Star,

cloud- It will not do to say of night,

cloud- It will not do to say of night,

cloud- It will not do to say of night,

pp

20

Star, _____

— Since dark is what brings out your

— Since dark is what brings out your

— Since dark is what brings out your

25

O Star, _____ Some mys - ter - y becomethe

light. _____ Some mys - ter - y becomethe

light. _____ Some mys - ter - y becomethe

light. _____ Some mys - ter - y becomethe

30

proud. — But to be whol - ly tac - i - turn in your re - serve — is not al -

proud. — But to be whol - ly tac - i - turn in your re - serve is not al -

proud. — But to be whol - ly tac - i - turn in your re - serve is not al -

proud. — But to be whol - ly tac - i - turn in your re - serve — is not al -

The piano accompaniment consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) with chords and melodic lines in a major key with two sharps.

33

low'd. — Say something to us we can learn By heart

low'd. — Say some-thing to us we can learn By heart

low'd. — Say something to us we can learn By heart

low'd. — Say something to us we can learn By heart

The piano accompaniment consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) with chords and melodic lines. A dynamic marking of *mf* is present above the piano part in measure 33.

38

and when a - lone re - peat. Say something! And it says, 'I

and when a - lone re - peat. Say something! And it says, 'I

and when a - lone re - peat. Say something! And it says, 'I

and when a - lone re - peat. Say something! And it says, 'I

43

burn? But say with what degree of heat. Talk

burn? But say with what degree of heat. Talk

burn? But say with what degree of heat. Talk

burn? But say with what degree of heat. Talk

48 *sfz* Fahr-en - heit, — talk Cen-ti - grade... Use lan - guage we can com-pre -

sfz Fahr-en - heit, — talk Cen-ti - grade... Use lan - guage we can com-pre -

sfz Fahr-en - heit, — talk Cen-ti - grade... Use lan - guage we can com-pre -

sfz Fahr-en - heit, — talk Cen-ti - grade... Use lan - guage we can com-pre -

51 *f* hend. — Tell us what el - e - ments you blend. *ten.* *mf* It gives us strangely lit - tle

f hend. — Tell us what el - e - ments you blend. *ten.* *mf* It gives us strangely lit - tle

f hend. — Tell us what el - e - ments you blend. *ten.* *mf* It gives us strangely lit - tle

f hend. — Tell us what el - e - ments you blend. *ten.* *mf* It gives us strangely lit - tle

55

mp slentando p
aid, — But does tell something in the end.

mp slentando p
aid, — But does tell something in the end.

mp slentando p
aid, — But does tell something in the end.

mp slentando p
aid, — But does tell something in the end.

slentando p chiaro
mp pp

60

poco rall. pp **Sostenuto e sereno**
a tempo
— And stead - fast as Keats' Er - e-mite,

poco rall. pp *a tempo*
— And stead - fast as Keats' Er - e -

poco rall. pp *a tempo*
— And stead - fast as Keats' Er - e -

poco rall. pp *a tempo*
— And stead - fast as Keats' Er - e -

poco rall. p dim. **Sostenuto e sereno**
a tempo
dolcissimo pp

Ped.

65 *pp*

Not ev - en stoop - ing from its sphere, ——— It

pp

mite, Not stoop - ing from its sphere, ——— It

pp

mite, Not stoop - ing from its sphere, ——— It

pp

mite, Not stoop - ing from its sphere, ——— It

70 *p* *poco a poco cresc.*

asks a lit-tle of us here. It asks of us a cer-tain height, ———

p *poco a poco cresc.*

asks a lit-tle of us here. It asks of us a cer-tain height, ———

p *poco a poco cresc.*

asks a lit-tle of us here. It asks of us a cer-tain height, ———

mp *poco a poco cresc.*

asks a lit-tle of us here, ——— asks of us a cer-tain height, ———

74

mp cresc. *mf cresc.*

So when at times the mob is sway'd To car - ry praise or blame too

mp cresc. *mf cresc.*

So when at times the mob is sway'd To car - ry praise or blame too

mp cresc. *mf cresc.*

So when at times the mob is sway'd To car - ry praise or blame too

mp cresc. *mf cresc.*

So when at times the mob is sway'd To car - ry praise or blame too

78

f *ff* *mp*

far, We may choose something like a star

f *ff* *mp*

far, We may choose something like a star

f *ff* *mp*

far, We may choose something like a star

f *ff* *mp*

far, We may choose something like a star

dim. *mp*

83

p To stay our minds _____ on _____ *pp* and _____ be

p To stay our minds _____ on _____ *pp* and _____ be

p To stay our minds _____ on _____ *pp* and _____ be

To stay our minds _____ on _____ *p* _____ *pp* and _____ be

p *mp*

89

(rall.) *Molto lento* *ppp* staid, _____ and _____ be staid.

(rall.) *ppp* staid, _____ and _____ be staid.

(rall.) *ppp* staid, _____ and _____ be staid.

(rall.) *ppp* staid, _____ and _____ be staid.

p *pp* *dim.* *rall.* *Molto lento* *ppp* *ppp*