

DAVID
AVSHALOMOV

Desert Snow

[key of a minor]

poem by
Meredith Kennedy
[from the "Blue Sky" album]

Medium High Voice
with piano

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Desert Snow

Slow March ♩ = 56

(oboe)

The first system of the score consists of two staves. The top staff is for the oboe, starting with a rest for two measures, then playing a melodic line with dynamics *mf* and *p*. The bottom staff is for the piano, with a forte (*f*) dynamic and a pedal marking (*Ped.*). It features a rhythmic accompaniment with chords and a timpani part indicated by a bracketed line.

4 (voice)

The second system begins with a vocal line on a treble clef staff, marked *p*. The lyrics are: "High in the de - sert where an ic - y wind blows, an ol - ive tree strug - gles in the sand. a". Below the vocal line is the piano accompaniment, which continues with the same rhythmic pattern as the first system, with dynamics *p* and *mf*.

6

The third system continues the vocal line with the lyrics: "young man lis - tens for a song he knows he'll nev - er quite un - der - stand." The piano accompaniment remains consistent with the previous systems, featuring a steady rhythmic accompaniment and chords.

8

The fourth system begins with a vocal line on a treble clef staff, marked *p*. The lyrics are: "Far from home the Dance of Life swept a - way where the cold wind blows,". The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic accompaniment, with dynamics *p* and *mf*.

2 11

far from home the dance of life a - ban - doned un - der - neath Des - ert Snow.

14

(oboe) *mf*

17 *p loco*

p loco

How is the beat - ing of a single man's heart to be heard on the bat - le - ground of war?

19 *cresc.*

cresc.

Now he will nev - er un - der - stand his part, or what the world was fight - ing for... there is

lit - tle com - fort that his bro - thers _____ lie there with him, the

sha - dows from the tomb - stone cap - tured _____ in the des - ert sun.

cresc.

The song up_ on the wind he_ can - not hear, it is nev - er clear how

cresc.

ff

last - ing peace comes from the bar - rel of a gun!

ff

Ped.

30 *pp*

Far from home the Dance of Life

pp

34 *rit.* *rit.* *tornando* *p*

swept a - way where the cold wind blows, far from home the dance of *pp* life a -

pp *p* *pp*

8va

Ped.

38 *A tempo, slower* *A tempo* *poco rit.*

ban - doned un - der - neath Des - ert Snow.

p *p* *pp*

♩ = 56

DAVID AVSHALOMOV

Songs for High or Medium Voice

From Songs of Life / Songs of Death (Dickinson)

Wild Nights, medium voice, piano, Gb [1:30]

Hope is the Thing with Feathers, high voice, Eb [2:20]

Also available with chamber scoring (piano, flute, string quintet)

Tie the Strings to my Life, high voice, piano, F [1:45]

Because I Could Not Stop for Death (Tango/Encore), med voice, piano, c minor [3]

Goodnight Moon, high voice, piano, string quintet, flute, F [3]

(all also available for bass/baritone in the complete cycle of 9)

Meredith Songs (from the “Blue Sky” album), mezzo soprano. A set of lighter songs commissioned by my friend and collaborator Meredith Kennedy on her own charming and singable lyrics.

Askendreya, piano, c minor, opt. high N. African hand drum [3]

Also chamber version (piano, 2 violins, viola, cello, bass, high hand drums)

Black Beauty, piano, G or F, [2].

Also version in F with Country/Western band

Blue Sky, piano, opt. small shaker, C [3]

Also version in C adding backup voices SSSAAATTTBBB

Also version in C or Bb adding backup voices SSAATTBB

Dazzle Me, piano, G [2] - easy shuffle version,

Also slow bluesy version, F or G. This also in F with piano, bass, drums, alto sax

Desert Snow, piano, opt. timpani, oboe, g minor or a minor [3]

Also version with piano, 2 violins, viola, cello, bass, timpani, oboe

Enchanted River, harp, opt. solo violin, Eb or Db [2] (or piano)

Ghostly Dancer, piano, opt. tambourine, f minor [3];

Also version with acoustic guitar, 3 flutes (or synth), opt. tambourine, e minor

Lady Jezebel, piano, opt. fretless electric bass, e minor or d minor [3]

Also version with piano, 2 violins, viola, cello, electric bass, drums, d minor

Lakota Storm, harp (or piano), opt. flute, opt. plains Indian dance circle drum, d minor [3]

A Minute after Midnight, piano, g minor [2]

Also version with 2 violins, opt. viola, opt. cello, bass, g minor or f# minor

Mr. Brown Eyes, piano, G [2]

Also version with piano, drums/brushes, Bb clarinet, bass

State of Mind, piano, opt. small shaker, e minor [3]

Also version with piano, flute, 2 violins, viola, cello, bass, shaker

Orchestra Song, final variation from *Let's Grow an Orchestra*, a schoolchild's interactive concert introduction to the orchestra with original orchestra song and lyrics by the composer [2]

Performance materials and complete list of works (including song arrangements and musical theater numbers) available through



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