

# Amid The Splendors Of The Sun

for Four-Part Treble Voices in Canon  
with Piano Accompaniment

Additional text from  
*Auguries of Innocence*  
by William Blake

Appalachian Folk Song  
Arranged by  
Nick Page

$\text{♩} = 86-92$

Piano *p*

*Ped.*  $\wedge$   $\wedge$  ample pedal throughout

6

11 *all voices unis. p*  
loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo

16  
loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo

The musical score is written in 6/8 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It begins with a piano introduction marked 'Piano' and 'p'. The piano part features a complex, flowing accompaniment with many beamed eighth and sixteenth notes. A 'Ped.' (pedal) marking with a wedge symbol indicates 'ample pedal throughout'. The score is divided into systems. The first system shows the piano introduction. The second system continues the piano accompaniment. The third system (measures 11-16) introduces the vocal line, marked 'all voices unis. p'. The lyrics are 'loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo'. The fourth system continues the piano accompaniment and the vocal line.

21

loo loo loo loo loo loo\_ loo loo\_ loo loo\_ loo loo loo

26

30 *div. into 2 equal parts*

*p* A - mid\_ the splen - dors

*p* A - mid\_ the sple - dors

34

of the sun, Great God! Thy love ap - pears. A -

of the sun, Grest God! Thy love ap -

37 *cresc.*

mid the splen - dors of the sun, Great God! Thy love\_ ap - pears.\_\_\_\_\_

pears. Great God! The love

41 *sub. p*

In the soft ra - dience of\_ the moon,\_\_\_\_\_ A - mong a thou - sand

*sub. p* In the soft ra - dience of\_ the moon,\_\_\_\_\_ *p* A -

*sub. p*

45 *div. into 2, 3, or 4 parts*

stars. A - mong\_ a thou - sand stars. A - mong\_ a thou - sand

stars. A - mong\_ a thou - sand stars. A - mong\_ a

mong\_ a thou - sand stars. A - mong\_ a thou - sand stars. A -

mong\_ a thou - sand stars. A - mong\_ a thou - sand stars.

stars. A - mong\_ a thou - sand stars. A mong\_ a thou - sand  
 thou - sand stars. A - mong\_ a thou - sand stars. A - mong\_ a  
 mong\_ a thou - sand stars. A - mong\_ a thou - sand stars. A -  
 A - mong\_ a thou - sand stars. A - mong\_ a thou - sand stars.

*let notes ring sim.*

stars. A - mong\_ a thou - sand stars. A mong\_ a thou - sand  
 thou - sand stars. A - mong\_ a thou - sand stars. A - mong\_ a  
 mong\_ a thou - sand stars. A - mong\_ a thou - sand stars. A -  
 A - mong\_ a thou - sand stars. A - mong\_ a thou - sand stars.

*ample pedal*

57 Descant\* *mf*

A - mid the splen - dors of the sun, Great God! Thy love ap -

stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand

thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a

mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars. A -

A - mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars.

let bottom note ring

61

pears. A - mid the splen - dors of the sun, Great God! Thy love ap -

stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand

thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a

mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars. A -

A - mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars.

\*This descant melody should be heard clearly above the canon.

65

pears. In the soft ra - dience of the moon, A -  
 stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand  
 thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a  
 mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars. A -  
 A - mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars.

69

mong a thou - sand stars.  
 stars.  
 thou - sand stars.  
 mong a thou - sand stars.  
 A - mong a thou - sand stars.

72

76 *all voices unis. mp*

To see the World in a Grain of Sand And a heav en

81

in a Wild Flower. Hold In-

86 *div. into 2 equal parts*

fin - i - ty in the palm of you hand And E - ter - ni - ty in an hour. And E -

fin - i - ty in the palm of you hand And E - ter - ni - ty in an

91

ter - ni - ty in an hour.

hour. And E - ter - ni - ty in an hour.

95

99 *div. into 2, 3, or 4 parts*

*mp* A - mid the splen - dors of the sun, Great God! Thy love ap -

*mp* A - mid the splen - dors of the sun, Great God! Thy

*mp* A - mid the splen - dors of the sun, Great

*mp* A - mid the splen - dors of the



103

pears. A - mid the splen - dors of the sun, Great God! Thy love ap -  
love ap - pears. A - mid the splen - dors of the sun, Great God! Thy  
God! Thy love ap - pears! A - mid the splen - dors of the sun, Great  
sun, Great God! Thy love ap - pears. A - mid the splen - dors of the

*let bottom note ring*

107

pears. In the soft ra - diance of the moon, A -  
love a - pears In the soft ra - diance of the moon,  
God! Thy love ap - pears In the soft ra - diance of the  
sun, Great God! Thy love ap - pears In the soft ra - diance

*p*

111 Descant I *All voices begin to improvise rhythm.\** **mp**

Descant II

mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand  
 A - mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a  
 moon, A - mong a thou - sand stars. A -  
 of the moon, A - mong a thou - sand stars.

*cresc.*

114 *getting softer as the piano grows in intensity.*

**mp**

mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand  
 A - mong a thou - sand stars. A -  
 stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars. A -  
 thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars.  
 mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand  
 A - mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a

\*Using only the notes as written, the singers should freely sing their phrases, not singing them the way the person next to them is singing. The best technique for this is for most to sing it a little slower, holding out some notes longer. The vowels should be pure and resonant. The consonants should be percussive and clear. The two "s"s in the word "stars" should create a shimmering canvas of light.

117

stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars. A -  
 mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand  
 mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand  
 A - mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a  
 stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars. A -  
 thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars.

120

*repeat many times, voices getting softer*

mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand  
 stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars. A  
 stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars. A  
 thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand stars.  
 mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a thou - sand  
 A - mong a thou - sand stars. A - mong a

(piano does not repeat)\*

123

126

129

singing continues

let ring

Freely\*\*

133

136

\*The piano does not repeat at measure 21. It continues with the written piano part. The voices continue to improvise on their phrases. At measure 132 when the piano begins its series of striking chords, the voices should begin to hold one pitch. For example, someone singing descant one at ms. 122 could sing "Among," holding the A-natural. Someone else could sing "Among a," holding the B-natural and someone else could sing "Among a thou-," holding the C. They should not all do this at the same time, but as a gradually growing shimmer. Using staggered breathing, they can sustain the 1st, 2nd, or any pitch in the phrase. When all voices are holding this rich chord, the conductor may sustain some pitches while fading others out. For a further challenge, some of the singers can begin to walk out into the audience at measure 113 when the improvisation begins. They can envelope the audience. It should sound like the shimmer of a thousand stars. Vowels should be pure, with a shine. Consonants should be percussive, particularly the short "s" sounds at the beginning and end of the word "stars."

\*\*These chords should strike out like bolts of lightning or spikes of the Northern Lights. They should be free, not on the beat. If needed, repeat some of them in random order.