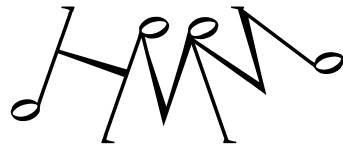


Snow-Flakes

~ for SATB chorus & celesta ~

Text by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Music by Christopher J. Hoh



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Snow-Flakes

Out of the bosom of the Air,
Out of the cloud-folds of her garments shaken,
Over the woodlands brown and bare,
Over the harvest-fields forsaken,
Silent, and soft, and slow
Descends the snow.

Even as our cloudy fancies take,
Suddenly shape in some divine expression,
Even as the troubled heart doth make,
In the white countenance confession,
The troubled sky reveals
The grief it feels.

This is the poem of the air,
Slowly in silent syllables recorded;
This is the secret of despair,
Long in its cloudy bosom hoarded,
Now whispered and revealed
To wood and field.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807 - 1882)
(believed written in 1858 and published in 1886)

Longfellow's poem portrays the wonder, mystery, agitation and despair of a mid-winter snowfall. I have tried to convey those elements in music, along with a sense of release at the end — a kind of catharsis in which I imagine the white wood and field brings to the troubled heart freshness and light. The accompaniment portrays snowflakes in swirls, starting lightly at first, building into stormy gusts in the middle, before fading away at the end.

Piano may be used instead of a celesta. In that case the notes should be played up one octave from the written pitch. cjh

Snow-Flakes

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Christopher J. Hoh

Delicately, not too fast (♩ = 56)

pppp (barely perceptible at first, *cresc.* to meas. 3) *mp*

Celesta

4 **Sopranos & Altos:** *mp*

Out of the bos - om

Tenors & Basses: *mp*

7 of the Air, Out of the

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10

cloud - folds of her - gar - ments - shak - en,

Musical notation for measures 10-12, including vocal line and piano accompaniment.

13

Ov - er the - wood - lands -

Musical notation for measures 13-15, including vocal line and piano accompaniment.

16

brown - and bare, Ov - er the -

Musical notation for measures 16-18, including vocal line and piano accompaniment.

19

har - vest - fields for - sak - en,

22

Si -

25

- lent, and soft, and slow

28 *poco rit.*

De - scends the snow.

poco rit. *rit.*

31 **Faster** (♩ = 76)

Faster (♩ = 76)

f

34 *f*

f

Ev - en as our cloud - y fan - cies

37

take, Sud-den - ly shape in some di -

40

vine ex - pres - sion, Ev - en as the

43

trou - bled heart doth make, In the

46

white coun - te - nance con - fes - - -

49

sion, The trou - bled sky re -

52

veals The grief it feels.

rit. (maintain volume)

rit. (maintain volume)

55 **Tempo 1** *mf*

This is the

Tempo 1 *mf*

58

po - em of the air,

61

Slow - ly in si - lent syl - la - bles re -

64

cord - ed; This is the

This system contains three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics 'cord - ed; This is the'. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in treble clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 64 starts with a vocal line and piano accompaniment. Measure 65 has a vocal line with a whole rest and piano accompaniment. Measure 66 continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment.

67

se - cret of de - spair,

This system contains three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics 'se - cret of de - spair,'. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in treble clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 67 starts with a vocal line and piano accompaniment. Measure 68 has a vocal line and piano accompaniment. Measure 69 continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment.

70

Long in its cloud - y bos - om

This system contains three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics 'Long in its cloud - y bos - om'. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in treble clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 70 starts with a vocal line and piano accompaniment. Measure 71 has a vocal line and piano accompaniment. Measure 72 continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment.

73



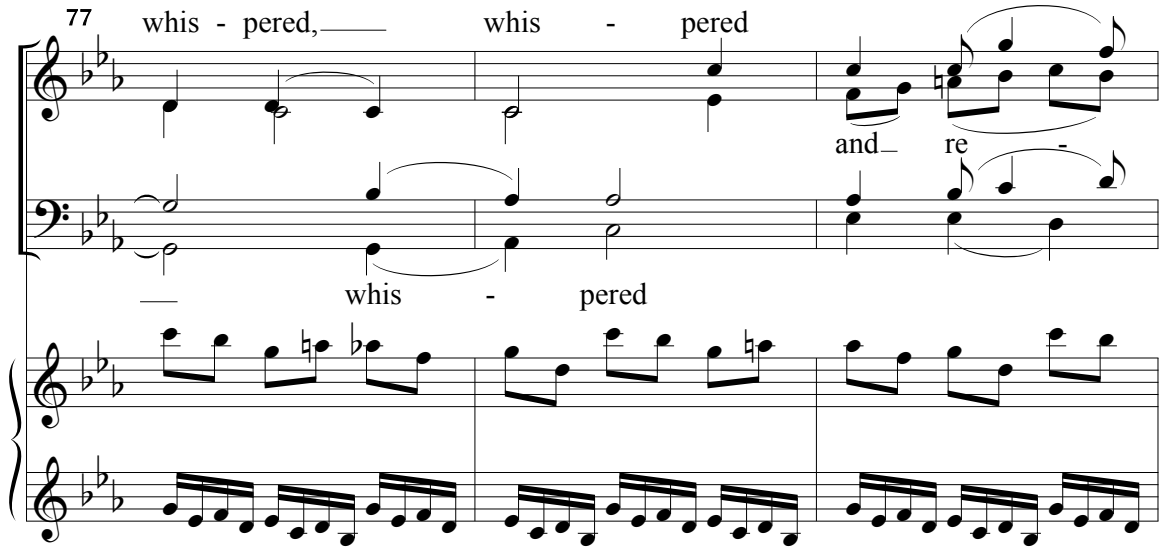
hoard - ed, Now

p

decr.

Now—

77



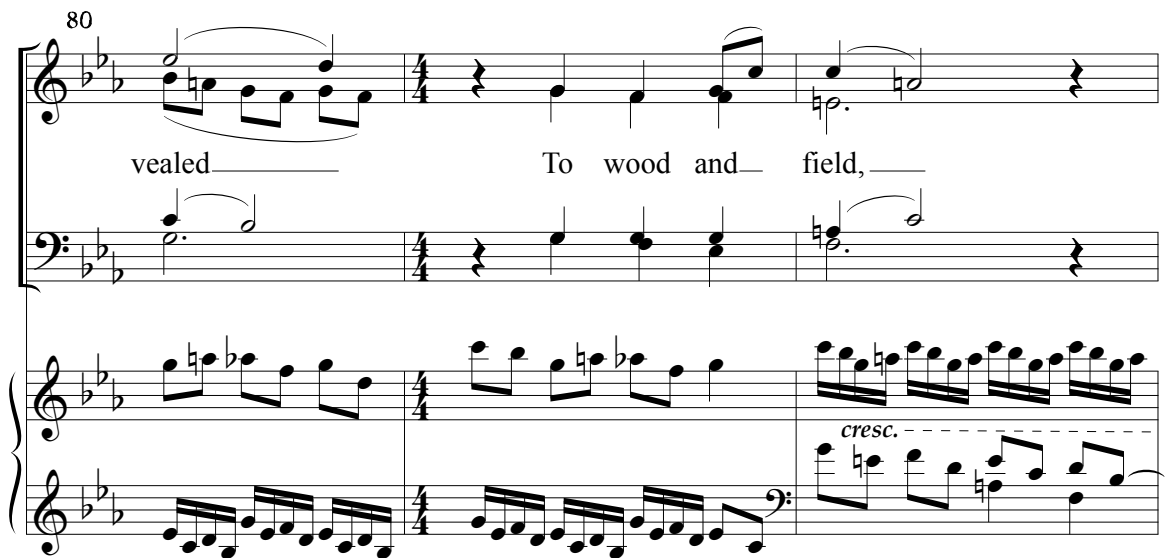
whis - pered, — whis - pered

and - re -

whis - pered

p

80



vealed — To wood and — field, —

cresc.

p

83 *mf* *poco rit.*

re - vealed to wood

85 *a tempo*

and field.

87

8

Celesta

Snow-Flakes

Christopher J. Hoh

Delicately, not too fast (♩ = 56)

pppp (barely perceptible at first, cresc. to meas. 3) mp

8

Measures 1-3: Treble clef has a whole rest. Bass clef has a triplet of eighth notes (G4, F4, E4) in measure 1, followed by eighth notes (D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3) in measures 2 and 3. Dynamics: pppp in measure 1, mp in measure 3.

4

Measures 4-6: Treble clef has quarter notes (G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3). Bass clef has eighth notes (G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3).

7

Measures 7-9: Treble clef has quarter notes (G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3). Bass clef has eighth notes (G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3).

10

Measures 10-12: Treble clef has quarter notes (G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3). Bass clef has eighth notes (G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3).

13

Measures 13-15: Treble clef has eighth notes (G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3). Bass clef has quarter notes (G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3).

16

Measures 16-18: Treble clef has eighth notes (G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3). Bass clef has quarter notes (G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3).

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Celesta

19

22

25

28

poco rit. *rit.*

31

Faster (♩ = 76)

34

Celesta

37

(b)

40

43

46

49

52

rit.

(maintain volume)

Celesta

55 Tempo 1

mf

Musical notation for measures 55-57. The piece is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The right hand plays a simple melody of quarter notes, while the left hand plays a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes.

58

Musical notation for measures 58-60. The right hand continues the melody, and the left hand maintains the eighth-note accompaniment.

61

Musical notation for measures 61-63. The right hand continues the melody, and the left hand maintains the eighth-note accompaniment.

64

Musical notation for measures 64-66. The right hand continues the melody, and the left hand maintains the eighth-note accompaniment.

67

Musical notation for measures 67-69. The right hand continues the melody, and the left hand maintains the eighth-note accompaniment.

70

Musical notation for measures 70-72. The right hand continues the melody, and the left hand maintains the eighth-note accompaniment.

Celesta

73

73-75: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 73: eighth-note triplet. Measure 74: eighth-note triplet. Measure 75: quarter note. Bass clef: eighth-note triplet. Measure 74: eighth-note triplet. Measure 75: quarter note. *decr.*

76

76-78: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 76: quarter note. Measure 77: quarter note. Measure 78: quarter note. Bass clef: eighth-note triplet. Measure 77: eighth-note triplet. Measure 78: eighth-note triplet. *p*

79

79-81: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 79: quarter note. Measure 80: quarter note. Measure 81: quarter note. Bass clef: eighth-note triplet. Measure 80: eighth-note triplet. Measure 81: eighth-note triplet. Time signature change to 4/4 at measure 81.

82

82-83: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 82: eighth-note triplet. Measure 83: eighth-note triplet. Bass clef: eighth-note triplet. Measure 82: eighth-note triplet. Measure 83: eighth-note triplet. *cresc.*

84

84-85: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 84: quarter note. Measure 85: quarter note. Bass clef: eighth-note triplet. Measure 84: eighth-note triplet. Measure 85: eighth-note triplet. *poco rit.* *a tempo* *f*

86

86-88: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 86: quarter note. Measure 87: quarter note. Measure 88: quarter note. Bass clef: eighth-note triplet. Measure 86: eighth-note triplet. Measure 87: eighth-note triplet. Measure 88: eighth-note triplet. *8*