

# CHORAL ADVENTURES

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## The Arrow And The Song

Words by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Music by Gabrielle Hamoy

for SSA and piano

GBH2201M

## **The Arrow And The Song**

*Text by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*

*Music by Gabrielle Hamoy*

I shot an arrow into the air,  
It fell to earth, I knew not where;  
For, so swiftly it flew, the sight  
Could not follow it in its flight.

I breathed a song into the air,  
It fell to earth, I knew not where;  
For who has sight so keen and strong,  
That it can follow the flight of song?

Long, long afterward, in an oak  
I found the arrow, still unbroke;  
And the song, from beginning to end,  
I found again in the heart of a friend.

**Range:** Ab3-Ab5

**Difficulty:** Medium

**Description:** The narrative of this 19th century American poem serves as a metaphor for the lasting impact that one's words and actions have on the world. This piece aims to capture the kind of childlike sentimentality that is evoked upon learning this lesson.

**Stylistic features:** Uncommon harmonic progressions, syncopated rhythms

**Technical challenges:** Challenging rhythms and harmonies. Modulation may be difficult. Contains many non-diatonic tones and dissonant intervals.

**Pedagogical value:** In this piece, choristers can familiarize themselves with singing non-diatonic notes and tackle more intermediate rhythms. The thematic content can also serve as a point of personal reflection.

**Performance suggestions:** Choreography may be implemented but movements are best kept simple.

### **About the composer**

Gabrielle Hamoy is a composition student at the Centro Escolar University Conservatory of Music. She is currently a working team member of the Treble Choir Association of the Philippines and sings with one of their scholar choirs, Kantabella.

## Graphic Rehearsal Guide

Formal outline	Intro	A	Interlude	A'	B	Interlude	A''	Modulation	A'''	B'	
Measures	1-4	4-12	12-15	15-23	24-33	33-37	37-46	45-48	48-56	57-End	
Tempo	Slowly, quarter note = 65										
Key	Ebm:							Bbm:			
Part-work		Melody		Harmonic support	Melody, harmonic support		Descant, melody		Melody	Melody, ostinato	
		Melody		Harmonic support	Melody, harmonic support		Harmonic support		Harmonic support	Harmonic support, melody, ostinato	
		Melody		Melody	Melody, harmonic support		Melody, harmonic support		Harmonic support, ostinato	Melody, harmonic support, call-and-response, ostinato	
	Piano intro		Piano interlude			Piano interlude		Piano interlude			
Text sequence		Stanza 1		Stanza 2	Stanza 3		Stanza 1		Stanza 2	Stanza 3	

# The Arrow And The Song

for SSA Choir with Piano

Text by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Music by Gabrielle Hamoy

Slowly ♩ = ca. 65

Soprano 1

Soprano 2

Alto

Piano

mp

Slowly ♩ = ca. 65


4

A

mp

I shot an ar-row in - to the air, it

Pno

 Unauthorised duplication  
of this score is illegal

7

S1

For, so swift-ly it flew, the sight could not

A

fell to the earth I knew not where;—

Pno

11

S1

fol-low it, could not fol-low it in its flight.

S2

could not fol-low it in its flight.

A

Pno

14 **B** *mp*

S1 I breathed a song in-to the air, — it

S2 I breathed a song in-to the air, — it

A *mf* I breathed a song in-to the air, — it

Pno

18

S1 fell to the earth I knew not where; — For who has sight so keen and

S2 fell to the earth I knew not where; — For who has sight so keen and

A fell to the earth I knew not where; — For who has sight so keen and

Pno

21 *mp* **C**

S1 strong, that it can fol- low\_ the flight of song? Long, long af-ter-ward in an

S2 strong, that it can fol- low\_ the flight of song?

A strong, that it can fol- low\_ the flight of song?

Pno

25 *mf*

S1 oak And the song, from be-gin-ning\_ to

S2 *mp* I found the ar - row still un-broke; And the song, from be-gin-ning\_ to *mf*

A *mp* I found the ar - row still un-broke And the song, from be-gin-ning\_ to *mf*

Pno

29

S1  
end, I found a-gain\_ in the heart\_ of a friend.

S2  
end, I found a-gain\_ in the heart\_ of a friend, I found a-gain\_ in the heart\_ of a *mf*

A  
end, I found a-gain\_ in the heart\_ of a friend, heart\_ of a *mp*

Pno

33

S1

S2  
friend.

A  
friend.

Pno



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44

S1  
fol-low it, could not fol-low it in its flight.

S2  
*mp*  
Could not fol-low its flight.

A  
*mp*  
Could not fol-low its flight.

Pno  
*mf*

47

**E**

S1  
*mf*  
I breathed a song in-to the air.

S2  
*mp*  
I breathed a song in-to the air.

A  
*mp*  
I breathed a song in-to the air.

Pno

50

S1 — It fell to the earth, I knew not where; — For who has sight so keen and

S2 — Ah — It fell to the earth, I knew not where; — Oh — For who has sight so keen and

A — Ah — It fell to the earth, I knew not where; — Oh — For who has sight so keen and

Pno

54

S1 strong, that it can fol- low\_ the flight of song? Long, long af-ter-ward in an **F** *mf*

S2 strong, that it can fol- low\_ the flight of song? Long, long af-ter-ward in an *mf*

A strong, that it can fol- low\_ the flight of song, the ar-row and the song?

Pno

58

*mp* oak, the ar-row and the song, *mf* and the song, from be-gin-ning to

S1

S2 oak. I found the ar - row still un-broke; and the song, from be-gin-ning to

A *mf* I found the ar - row still un-broke; and the song,

Pno

62

S1 end, I found a-gain\_ in the heart\_\_ of a friend,

S2 end, I found a-gain\_ in the heart\_\_ of a friend, heart of a

A from be-gin-ning to end, heart\_\_ of a friend,

Pno

65

S1 *mp* the ar-row and the song *p* I found a-gain, I found a-gain in the heart of a

S2 friend, *mp* I found a-gain, *p* I found a-gain in the heart of a

A I found a-gain in the heart of a

Pno *p*

69

S1 friend. *mp* The ar - row and the

S2 friend. *mp* The ar - row and the

A friend *mp* The ar - row and the

Pno *mp*

71

**rit.** . . . . .

S1  
song, the ar - row and the song.

S2  
song, the ar - row and the song.

A  
song, the ar - row and the song.

**rit.** . . . . .

*p*

Pno