

JMM1102

Aedh wishes for the cloths of heaven

J M MacPherson

SATB, unaccompanied



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Composer's notes

It is of utmost importance to the piece that the underlying poem be properly studied and rehearsed without the music. Many of the inflections and musical choices, including phrase lengths and musical stresses, are informed by the text itself. The music itself must be approached with a delicate touch, paying particular attention to intonation so that the shimmering quality of the harmonies are allowed to resonate, as well as tempo, ensuring to give each phrase the proportionate breathing space it needs especially in the fermati over the rests. Word painting is especially important to this piece, so uniformity of vowels and ending consonants should be ensured.

Aedh wishes for the cloths of heaven

*Had I the heavens' embroidered cloths,
Enwrought with golden and silver light,
The blue and the dim and the dark cloths
Of night and light and the half light,
I would spread the cloths under your feet:
But I, being poor, have only my dreams;
I have spread my dreams under your feet;
Tread softly because you tread on my dreams.*

-William Butler Yeets (1899)

Aedh wishes for the cloths of heaven

William Butler Yeats
"The Wind Among the Reeds"
1899

J.M.MacPherson

Adagio $\text{♩} = 36$

SOPRANO
Had_ I the Hea-ven's em - broi - dered cloths_ En -

ALTO
Had_ I the Hea-ven's em - broi - dered cloths_ En -

TENOR
Had_ I the Hea-ven's em - broi - dered cloths_ En -

BASS
Had_ I the Hea-ven's em - broi - dered cloths_ En -

5

S
wrought with gol - den and sil - ver light_ Had

A
wrought with_ gol - den and sil - ver light_ Had

T
wrought with gol - den and sil - ver light_

B
wrought with gol - den and sil - ver light_



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9

S I the hea-ven's em - broi - de - red cloths En -

A I the Hea-ven's em - broi - de - red cloths en -

T 8 Had I the hea-ven's em-broi - dered cloths em - broi - dered cloths En -

B Had I the hea-ven's em- broi - dered cloths en -

13

espressivo **f** *mp*

S wrought with gol - den and sil - - - ver light

f *mp*

A wrought with gol - den and sil - - - ver light

f *espressivo* *mp*

T 8 wrought with gol-den and sil - - - ver light with gol - en and sil - ver

f *mp*

B wrought with gol-den and sil - - - ver light

18

p *p* *mp*

S The blue

p *p*

A The blue

p *p* *mp*

T 8 light The blue and the

p *p*

B The blue

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46

S - der your feet *pp*

A your feet *pp*

T - der your feet *expressivo* I'd spread them un - der your feet *pp*

B - der your feet un - der your feet *pp*

50 **Largo con delicatezza** ♩=60

S But I be - ing poor have on - ly my dreams I have spread my dreams *f*

A I be - ing poor have on - ly my dreams I have spread my dreams *f*

56 *f* *mp* *p* *pp*

S un - der your feet. tread soft - ly soft - ly

A un - der your feet your feet tread soft - ly soft - ly

T soft - ly *p*

B soft - ly *p*

63

S *mp*
be - cause you tread on my dreams

A *mp*
be - cause you tread on my dreams you tread on my dream

T *pp* *mp*
soft - ly be - cause you tread on my dreams

B *pp* *mp*
soft - ly be - cause you tread on my dreams

68

S *pp*
tread soft - ly tread soft - ly

A *pp*
tread soft - ly soft - ly

T *pp*
soft

B *pp*
soft

72

S *rall.* *mp* *sfz* *p* *ppp*
be - cause you tread on my dreams.

A *mp* *sfz* *p* *ppp*
be - cause you tread on my dreams

T *mp* *sfz* *p* *ppp*
soft - ly be - cause you tread on my dreams

B *mp* *sfz* *p* *ppp*
soft - ly be - cause you tread on my dreams