

DREAMS

Words by LANGSTON HUGHES (1902-1967)

Music by AUDREY SNYDER



* Hold fast to dreams
For if dreams die
Life is a broken-winged bird
That cannot fly.

Hold fast to dreams
For when dreams go
Life is a barren field
Frozen with snow.

Langston Hughes, American poet, novelist, editor and playwright, made his indelible mark on American literature for nearly fifty years. The focus of the majority of his works is the experience of the black man in America, his sorrows, joys, hopes and dreams. Many of his works reflect great sadness for oppression yet coupled with optimism for the future. DREAMS is from a collection of poems entitled *THE DREAM KEEPER and Other Poems*, first published in 1932.

The simple imagery and eloquence of this poem provides a wide variety of optional educational activities using the visual arts, creative movement and discussion.

Performance suggestion: This piece is ideally performed very legato, with little or no vibrato, and with careful attention given to the shaping of phrases and clarity of tone.

Audrey Snyder

* From *THE DREAM KEEPER AND OTHER POEMS* by Langston Hughes.

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Commissioned by The Louisville Youth Choir, Carol Christell, Music Director

DREAMS

Three-Part Mixed, accompanied

Words by LANGSTON HUGHES*
Music by AUDREY SNYDER

Legato, not in strict tempo (♩ = ca. 58)

Piano

I *mp*
Hold fast to dreams, Hold fast to

II *mp*
Hold fast to dreams, _____

III

Ped. sim. throughout

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7 *mf*

dreams, Hold fast to dreams for if dreams die,

mf

Hold fast to dreams for if dreams die,

mp

Hold fast to dreams,

7 *mf*

mp slight rit. 11 *a tempo*

Life is a broken-winged bird that can - not fly.

mp slight rit. *a tempo*

Life is a broken-winged bird that can - not fly.

mp slight rit. *a tempo*

Hold fast to

11 *mp* slight rit. *a tempo*

Hold fast to dreams, _____

Hold fast to dreams, Hold fast to

dreams, Hold fast to dreams,

Hold fast to dreams for when dreams go, Life is a bar-ren field_

dreams, fast to dreams for when dreams go, Life is a bar-ren field

Hold fast to dreams for when dreams go, Life is a bar-ren field

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rit. *mp* *mf* *a tempo* *rit.* *p*

fro - zen with snow, Life is a bar - ren field fro - zen with snow.

rit. *mp* *mf* *a tempo* *rit.* *p*

fro - zen with snow, Life is a bar - ren field fro - zen with snow.

rit. *mp* *mf* *a tempo* *rit.* *p*

fro - zen with snow, Life is a bar - ren field fro - zen with snow.

rit. *mp* *a tempo* *mf* *rit.* *p*

a tempo *mp*

Hold fast to

a tempo

a tempo

gva *a tempo* *mp* *Ped. sim.*



dreams,

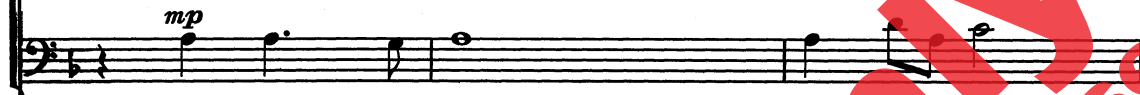
Hold fast to dreams,



mp

Hold fast to dreams,

Hold fast to



mp

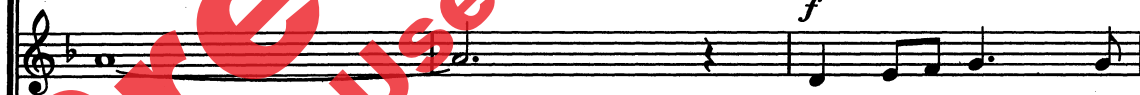
Hold fast to dreams,

Hold fast to dreams,



Hold fast to dreams,

Hold fast to dreams for



f

dreams,

Hold fast to dreams for



f

Hold fast to dreams, hold fast, for



29

f

when dreams go, Life is a bar-ren field_ when dreams go, _____

when dreams go, Life is a bar-ren field, life is a bro-ken-winged

when dreams go, Life is a bro-ken-winged

Life is a bar-ren field fro zen with snow. _____

bird, a bar-ren field fro - zen with snow.

bird, a bar-ren field fro - zen with snow. _____

*Use cue note instead, if range is not a problem.

36 *mp* Hold fast to

mp Hold fast to dreams,

mp Hold fast to dreams,

36 *Ped. sim.*

rit. *molto rit.* *p*

dreams.

rit. *molto rit.* *p*

Hold fast to dreams.

rit. *molto rit.* *p*

Hold fast to dreams.

gva

rit. e decresc. *molto rit.* *p*

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