

Aaron Houston

In the Bleak Midwinter

for SATB



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For Perusal Use Only

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Duration: c. 6 minutes

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In the Bleak Midwinter

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
But His mother only, in her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give Him; give my heart.

-- Christina Rosseti

In the Bleak Midwinter

Text: Christina Rossetti

Tune: Gustav Holst
Arranged by: Aaron Houston

Adagio, tranquil ♩ = 63
pp *mp* *rit.....* *pp* **a tempo**
p legato

SOPRANO
Oo
pp *mp* *pp*
In the bleak mid -

ALTO
Oo
pp *mp* *pp*
In the bleak mid -

TENOR
Oo
pp *mp* *pp*
mid -

BASS
Oo
pp *mp* *pp*
mid -

for Rehearsal only
pp *mp* *p legato*

- win - ter Frost - y wind made moan, Earth stood hard as ir - on, wa - ter like a

- win - ter Frost - y wind made moan, Earth stood hard as ir - on, wa - ter like a

- win - ter Frost - y wind made moan, Earth stood hard as ir - on, wa - ter a

p legato
hard as ir - on, wa - ter like a

In the Bleak Midwinter

12

mp *mf* *p* *pp*

stone; Snow had fal - len, snow on snow; snow on snow; snow on snow;

mp *mf* *p* *pp*

stone; Snow had fal - len, snow on snow, snow on snow on snow;

mp *mf* *p* *pp*

stone; Snow had fal - len, snow on snow, snow on snow; snow on snow;

mp *mf* *p* *pp*

stone; Snow had fal - len, snow on snow, snow on snow on snow;

poco rit..... A little more motion, ♩ = 69

19

p *mf*

In the bleak mid - win - ter, Long a - go. Oo

p *mf*

In the bleak mid - win - ter, Long a - go. Oo

p *mf*

Oo

p *mf*

Oo

25 *pp* **Tempo I**, $\text{♩} = 63$ *mf*

pp *mf*

pp *p* *mp* *p*

pp *p* *mp* *p*

Our God heav'n can - not hold him Nor Earth sus - tain;

Our God can - not hold him, Nor Earth sus - tain;

pp *p* *mp* *p*

pp *p* *mp* *p*

poco rit..... a tempo

31 *pp* *p* *mp* *p* *p* *mf*

- tain; Heav'n and Earth shall flee a - way, Oo In the bleak mid -

pp *p* *mp* *p* *pp* *mf*

- tain; Heav'n and Earth shall flee a - way, When He comes to reign: In the bleak mid -

p *mp* *p* *pp* *mf*

Heav'n and Earth shall flee a - way, When He comes to reign: In the bleak mid -

p *mp* *p* *p* *mf*

Heav'n and Earth shall flee a - way, Oo In bleak mid -

pp *p* *mp* *p* *pp* *mf*

37 *f* *mf* *p*

-win - ter, A sta - ble place suf - fic'd The Lord God al - migh - ty, Je - sus

f *mf* *p*

-win - ter, a sta - ble place suf - fic'd The Lord God al - migh - ty, Je - sus

f *mf* *p*

-win - ter, A sta - ble place suf - fic'd The Lord God al - migh - ty, Je - sus

f *mf* *p*

-win - ter, A sta - ble place suf - fic'd The Lord God al - migh - ty, Je - sus

43 **Gently moving forward, ♩ = 69** *cresc.* *rit.*.....

Christ. Oo

cresc.

Christ. Oo

cresc.

Christ. Oo

cresc.

Christ. Oo

cresc.

Christ. Oo

Tempo I, ♩ = 63

f poco rit.....a tempo

49

f

An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - er'd there, Cher - u - bim and Ser - a - phim

f

An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - er'd there, Cher - u - bim and Ser - a - phim

f

An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - er'd there, Cher - u - bim and Ser - a - phim

f

An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - er'd there, Cher - u - bim and Ser - a - phim

55

ff **mf**

throng'd the air, But on - ly His Moth - er, in her maid - en bliss,

ff **mf**

throng'd the air. But on - ly His Moth - er, in her maid - en bliss,

ff **mf**

throng'd the air, But on - ly His Moth - er, in her maid - en bliss,

ff **mf**

throng'd the air, But on - ly His Moth - er, in her maid - en bliss,

61

wor - shipp'd the Bel - o - ved with a kiss. Oo

wor - shipp'd the Bel - o - ved with a kiss. Oo

wor - shipp'd the Bel - o - ved with a kiss. Oo

wor - shipp'd the Bel - o - ved with a kiss. Oo

What can I give Him, poor as I am? Oo

What can I give Him, poor as I am? Oo

Oo

Oo

73

pp *mp* *mf*

a lamb; If I were a

pp *mp* *mf*

a lamb; If I were a

mp *mf*

If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb; If I were a

mp *mf*

If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb; If I were a

mp *mf*

78

mp

wise - man, I would do my part, Yet what I can I give Him,

mp

wise - man I would do my part, Yet what I can I give Him,

mp

wise - man, I would do my part, Yet what I can I give Him,

mp

wise - man, I would do my part, Yet what I can I give Him,

mp

In the Bleak Midwinter

Moving forward, ♩ = 69

rit.....

83

p *pp* *mp*

give my heart. Oo

give my heart. Oo

give my heart. Oo

give my heart. Oo

p *pp* *mp*

p *pp* *mp*

Slightly slower, calmly, ♩ = 60

pp *molto rit.....*

88

pp *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

In the bleak mid - - win - ter, Long a - go.

In the bleak mid - - win - ter, Long a - go.

In the bleak mid - - win - ter, Long a - go.

In the bleak mid - - win - ter, Long a - go.

pp