

Gwyneth Walker

The Promised Land

*Songs of the "Next Life"
for Soprano with piano accompaniment*

*Every Night When the Sun Goes Down
The Morning Train
All My Trials
Walk on up to Heaven*

Preliminary Program Notes

The Promised Land is a set of arrangements and adaptations of traditional American songs (spirituals). The common element is the yearning for, or celebration of, the life beyond death – the "next life." The songs express a variety of emotions, ranging from the sorrow of leaving this world, to the release from a life of suffering, and finally, to the joy of walking up to Heaven.

These songs were selected because of their contrasting character yet similar message. For, this project has two stages – songs with piano accompaniment, and then songs with full orchestral accompaniment. Having a range of styles and textures offers the most potential for colorful pianistic and orchestral writing.

The Promised Land

for Soprano and Piano

Traditional

Gwyneth Walker

1. Every Night When the Sun Goes Down

Gently flowing ♩ = 108

Piano

p tenderly

poco cresc.

with pedal

6

rit.

slowly **A** *a tempo*

mp cantabile

Ev - 'ry night _____ when the sun goes

rit.

slowly **A** *a tempo*

p

11

down, _____ ev - 'ry night _____ when the sun goes _____

2

15

down, _____ ev - 'ry night when the sun goes _____ down, _____

ped.

20

[ossia for higher voices]

_____ I hang my head _____ and mourn - ful cry. _____

poco cresc.

rit.

ped.

24

rit.

slowly

B *a tempo*

True love don't weep, _____

slowly

B *a tempo*

rit.

(cresc.)

p

ped.

28

_____ true love don't mourn. _____ True love don't weep. _____

32

— true love don't mourn. True love don't weep or

36

mourn for me. The Lord has come to set me

[ossia]

Ped. rit.

41

free. And ev - 'ry night, and ev - 'ry night, and ev - 'ry

rit. C a tempo lightly

Ped. rit.

44

night, and ev - 'ry night, and ev - 'ry night, and ev - 'ry night, and ev - 'ry

rit.

6/4

4

46 *Slower* *p*, *accel.* **D** *a tempo* (♩ = 108) *mf*

night, and ev-'ry night, I pray the Lord _____ my train would

Slower *accel.* **D** *a tempo* (♩ = 108) *mf*

come. _____ I pray the Lord _____

52 _____ my train would come. _____ I pray the Lord my

56 train would _____ come _____ to take me back _____ where I came

8va *loco*

ped. *ped.*

61 *mf* lightly

from. _____ And ev - 'ry

p *cresc. poco a poco*

And. *And.* *simile*

65 **E** *a tempo*

night, and ev - 'ry night, and ev - 'ry night, and ev - 'ry night, and ev - 'ry

E *a tempo*

mf *p*

67 *rit.*

night, and ev - 'ry night, and ev - 'ry night, and ev - 'ry night, and ev - 'ry

rit.

69 *Slower* *p* *accel.*

night, and ev - 'ry night, and ev - 'ry night, and ev - 'ry night... And when I

Slower *accel.*

And.

6
71 **F** *a tempo* (♩ = 108)
f

rise up in the sky,

F *a tempo* (♩ = 108)
p cresc.

74

and when I rise up in the

f cresc.

77

sky, if you look up quick - ly you can

f p

8va-1

80

see me pass - ing by, on wings of sil - ver

p

84 *rit.* *f* **Slower** **G**

I will fly. If you look up quick-ly, you can

88 **Free measure**

see me pass - ing, pass - ing, pass - ing, pass - ing, - pass - ing, - pass - ing, - pass - ing -

89 **H** **Slowly** *p* *accel. poco a poco* *mp*

by, on wings of sil - ver, on wings of

H **Slowly** *accel. poco a poco* *mp*

93 *(accel.)* *mf* *f*

sil - ver, on wings of sil - ver, I will

(accel.) *mf* *f*

2. The Morning Train

Start slowly and accel. [to A]

8^{va}-----

p cresc. poco a poco [to A]

Reo.

4 (8^{va})-----

(accel.)

(cresc.)

(Reo.)

7 (8^{va})-----

(accel.)

A Quickly ♩ = 144

loco

(cresc.)

f

(Reo.) Reo. Reo.

10

Reo. Reo. Reo. Reo. Reo. Reo.

13

* [pitches approx.]

black-note gliss.

Reo. Reo. Reo.

*The pianist may substitute white-note glissandi if it is more comfortable throughout this song.

10

16

f with energy

B

I'm go - ing home _____ on the morn - ing

black-note gliss.

black-note gliss.

Ped. _____ simile

19

train. _____ I'm go - ing home _____

black-note gliss.

22

_____ on the morn - ing train. _____

[pitches approx.]

white-note gliss.

white-note gliss.

25 **C**

I'm go-ing home on the morn - ing train, - _____ if you don't see me you can

C

28

hear me sing - ing. All my sins been ta - ken a - way,

32

ta - ken a - way.

poco **D**

poco **D** *mf* (as a train whistle)

36

f

Sis - ter Mar - y

39

E

wore _____ three links of chain. _____ Sis - ter

E [pitches approx.] *black-note gliss.*

12

43

Mar - y wore three links of chain.

white-noise gliss.

46

Sis - ter Mar - y wore three links of chain, -

F

49

on each link was Free - dom's name. All my sins been

52

ta - - - ken a - way, ta - ken a -

F

G *mf* (as a train whistle)

55

way. _____

Oo, _____

poco

G

mf

58

oo, _____

poco

mf

61

home _____

mf

64

The dev - il has got a slip - p'ry

f

H

14

67

p ————— *f*

shoe. ————— Yes, the dev - il has got

p ————— *f*

ped.

70

p ————— *f*

a slip - p'ry shoe. —————

ped.

73

I

The dev - il's got a slip - p'ry shoe. — If you don't watch out she'll

ped.

76

rit.

slip it on you, yes she'll slip it on you, she will slip it on you, that's

rit.

8va-

ped.

79 *(rit.)* *p* **Slowly** *cresc.*
 [ossia for higher voices]
 what she does! _____ Keep your hand on that plow, _____

(rit.) *b* **Slowly**

(Ped.) _____ *Ped.*

83 *f* **a tempo** (♩ = 144)
 hold on! _____

f **a tempo** (♩ = 144)

(Ped.) _____

87 **J**
(f) as a train whistle

91 *(f) as a train whistle*
 Oo _____ Oo _____

94

K

p

97

p *cresc.*

go - ing home, — go - ing home, —

cresc.

101

f **L**

home — I'm go - ing home — to the Prom - ised

f **L**

white-note gliss.

105

Land. _____ I'm go-ing home _____ to the Prom - ised

109

Land. _____ I'm go-ing home to the Prom - ised Land.

113

Lord God Al-might - y please hold my hand. _____ All my sins been

116

ta - ken a - way, ta - ken a - way.

120

Go - ing home to the, go - ing home to the,

123

go - ing home to the Prom - ised Land. - Go - ing home

3. All My Trials

$\text{♩} = 100$

p very gently, cantabile

5 *poco cresc.* *rit.*

a tempo
played in a sorrowful manner, as if trembling or sobbing

9 *pp* *loco*
with pedal

13 **A** *p* with sorrow and heaviness
All my trials, Lord,

A

The musical score is written for piano in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music. The first system (measures 1-4) features a melody in the right hand with a tempo marking of quarter note = 100 and a dynamic of piano (p), with the instruction 'very gently, cantabile'. The second system (measures 5-8) continues the melody, marked 'poco cresc.' and 'rit.'. The third system (measures 9-12) is a dense accompaniment of chords in both hands, marked 'pp' and 'loco', with the instruction 'with pedal'. The fourth system (measures 13-16) includes a vocal line with lyrics 'All my trials, Lord,' and a piano accompaniment. The piano part in the fourth system is marked with a box containing the letter 'A'.

17

soon _____ be_ o - ver. _____

21

All _____ my_ tri - als, Lord,

25

soon _____ be_ o - ver. _____

29

poco rit. **B** Freely *mf*

— If liv - ing were a thing that

poco rit. **B** Freely *mf*

22

32

mon - ey could buy, you know the rich would live,

35

poco accel.

and the poor would die.

p

(with pedal)

38

C *a tempo* (♩ = 100)

f

All my trials, Lord,

C *a tempo* (♩ = 100)

f

Rec. simile

42

soon be over.

46

All my trials, Lord,

49

soon be

52

o - - - ver.

dim.

55 *poco rit.* **D** Freely *p*

Hush, lit-tle ba - by, don't you cry. Hush, lit-tle ba - by,

poco rit. **D** Freely *p*

(dim.) 3 3 3 3

59

don't you cry, you know your ma - - ma was born to —

61 *poco accel.* **E** *a tempo* (♩ = 100) *f*

die. All my tri - als, Lord,

poco accel. **E** *a tempo* (♩ = 100) *f*

64 *rit.* **Slower**

all my — tri - als, Lord, all — my —

67 *rit.* **Slower** *a tempo* (♩ = 100) *p*

tri - als, Lord, soon — be o - - - - - ver, —

a tempo (♩ = 100)

71

soon be o - - - ver. —

74 **F**

F *p*

26

77

p
Ah, _____

80

G
mf

83

mf
ah, _____

86

p
ah, _____ ah, ah, ah, ah, o -
Ped.

89 *rit.* *p*, **H** *Slower, more freely* *f*

- - o - o - - - ver... Too late, my broth - ers,

rit. **H** *Slower, more freely* *f*

(Leo.) Leo.

92 *mf*, *p*

too late, but nev - er - mind. I'm go - ing home,

mf *p* *8va*

96 *accel.* **I** *a tempo* (♩ = 100) *cresc. poco a poco*

I must leave you here be - hind. Ah,

loco *accel.* **I** *a tempo* (♩ = 100) *cresc. poco a poco*

100 *(cresc.)*

ah,

(cresc.)

4. Walk On Up to Heaven

At a walking tempo $\text{♩} = 88$

f energetic

5

9 **A** *f*

I got shoes, _____ you got shoes, _____

A

13

all of God's chil - dren got _____ shoes. _____ when the

30

17

Judg-ment comes, gon-na put on my shoes, _____ and walk on up_ to

21

heav - en, _____ heav - en, _____ gon-na walk on up to hea - hea - hea -

25

hea - hea - hea - ven.

B

B

with slight pedal

30

hea - hea - hea - hea - hea - hea - hea - ven.

35 C

I got a voice, _____ and you got a voice, _____

39

_____ all of God's chil - dren got a voice. _____ When the

44

Judg - ment comes, gon - na shout the glo - ry, gon - na put on my shoes and

48

walk on up to heav - en, _____ heav - en, _____ gon - na walk on up to

32

52

hea - hea - hea - hea - hea - hea - ven.

D

57

Hea - - - - - ven...

61

[connect vowel "ah" to "I"] *rit.* **E** *a tempo*

Ah - - - - - I got hope, —

rit. R.H. L.H.

E *a tempo*

65

— and you got hope, —

68

all of God's chil - dren got hope.

Reo.

71

Right_ here on earth gon-na fol - - - low my

(Reo.) *Reo.*

74

dreams, gon-na shout the glo - ry, gon-na put on my shoes and

(Reo.)

77

walk on up_ to hea - ven, hea - ven, gon-na walk on up to

34
81

hea - hea - hea - hea - hea - hea - ven.

F

F

(f)

86

Hea-hea - hea - hea - hea - hea - hea - ven... ah, _____

p ————— *f*

p ————— *f*

91

hea - hea - hea - hea - hea - hea - hea - ven... _____

p ————— *f* *rit.* *a tempo*

p ————— *f*

p gently, as wings

rit.

a tempo

8va

3 *3* *3* *3*

3 *3* *3* *3*

3 *3* *3* *3*

3 *3* *3* *3*

Ped. *Ped.* *Ped.*

95

I _____ got _____

G *p*

loco

G *8va*

3 *3* *3* *3*

3 *3* *3* *3*

3 *3* *3* *3*

3 *3* *3* *3*

3 *3* *3* *3*

3 *3* *3* *3*

Ped. *Ped.* *Ped.*

99 *tr*

wings, _____ you _____ got _____

(8va) _____ *loco*

Ped. _____ *Ped.* _____ *Ped.* _____

103 *tr*

wings, _____ all of God's chil - dren got _____

(8va) _____

Ped. _____ *Ped.* _____ *Ped.* _____ *Ped.* _____

107 *tr* *tr*

wings. _____

loco

Ped. _____ *Ped.* _____ *Ped.* _____ *Ped.* _____

111 **H**

One of these days I'm gon - na fly, _____

H

Ped. _____ *Ped.* _____

cresc. poco a poco

fly, fly, on up to

cresc. poco a poco

Loco. *Loco.* *simile*

p sub.

cresc. poco a poco

hea - ven, hea - ven, hea - ven, hea - ven, hea - ven, hea -

p sub. *cresc. poco a poco*

Loco.

I (*cresc.*)

rit.

f

ven!

rit. *f*

Loco.

Slowly

p

J

I got dreams, I got hope,

Slowly *loco* *pp*

Loco. *Loco.*

132 *accel.*

I got joy, I got life. I can

accel.

p

(Reo.)

137 **K** *a tempo* ($\text{♩} = 88$)
cresc. poco a poco

shout the glo - ry, I can spread my wings and

K *a tempo* ($\text{♩} = 88$)
cresc. poco a poco

141 *(cresc.)*

fly, fly, fly,

(cresc.)

144 *f* *poco rit.*

on up to hea - ven, hea - ven, hea - ven, hea - ven,

f *poco rit.*

154 **N** *a tempo* (♩ = 88) *p cresc. to end*

home! _____

158 *(cresc.)* *rit.*

(cresc.) *rit.*

R.H. L.H.

3'45"
 Total: 16'00"
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