

S
A
M
P
L
E

C
O
P
Y

MUSIC BY
DON MACDONALD



TWO SONGS

SSAATTBB

COMMISSIONED BY
IN MEDIO CHOIR
JOHN EISEMANN ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

(Vocal Score)



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Duration: c. 3'40

Two Songs

*When I was a young
mother I had
two songs:
one of terror,
one of love.*

*I hope I sang
one louder.
I hope I sang it
like a prayer.*

Poetry by Sara Rivara

Notes from the Poet

This poem comes at the end of a series of poems about raising my son with my abusive former partner, and how that affected both of us, how fear and love lived next to one another for decades.

However, the dichotomy of fear and love exists in all parents. We have children--these little parts of us that exist in the world outside of our bodies and whose fates we cannot control or protect--and then we have to give them to the world, which might hurt them and which might hold them. We don't know which.

Eventually, our children will grow up and leave us. And we hope that whatever prayer we offered them--born of fear, hope, or both--is the one that will buoy them into a good and long and beautiful life. We hope we have done enough.

Sara Quinn Rivara is the author of three collections of poetry, most recently *LITTLE BEAST* (Riot In your Throat Press), a finalist for the 2024 Oregon Book Awards. She lives and works in Portland, Oregon.

Don Macdonald is a Canadian composer known for his work in film and choral music. His choral works have been performed and recorded by leading ensembles worldwide, including Lyyra (Voces8 Foundation, UK), Rajaton (Finland), the Vancouver Chamber Choir (Canada), Cantus (USA), and the University of Johannesburg Choir (SA).

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SAMPLE 1

Two Songs

Poetry by Sara Quinn Rivara

Music by Don Macdonald

Musical score for "When the Sun Comes Out" featuring Soprano, Tenor, and Bass staves. The Soprano part is mostly rests, with a final note marked *p* and *solo or sop 1*. The Tenor and Bass parts have lyrics "When" and "Mm" respectively, with musical notation including slurs and accents.

5 **A**

S. I was a young mo-ther I had two songs: one of ter - ror one of

T. *p* *Mm*

B. *p*

8

S. love. I hope I sang one loud-er I hope I sang it like a

A. alto 1. *p* like a

T. like a

B. like a

B

12

S. *mp* prayer, _____ *tutti* a prayer, _____ *mf* a prayer, _____ a prayer,

A. *mp* a prayer a prayer, a prayer, a prayer, like a

M. *mp* prayer a prayer, _____ *mf* a prayer, _____

P. *mp* prayer *mp* a prayer, _____ *mf* a prayer, _____

L. *mp* *mf*

E. *mp* *mf*

C. *mp* like a prayer. _____ *3* *C* _____ *p*

O. *mp* prayer, a prayer. *3* *p* When

P. *mp* like a prayer. _____ *3* *p*

Y. *mp* *3* *p*

B. *mp* *p*

23 **D** 3

p *mp*

S. When I was a young mo-ther I had two songs:—

S. I was a young mo-ther I had two songs: When

A. *p* *mp*

T. *p* *mp* Mm— gradually change to Oo

B. *p* *mp* Mm— gradually change to Oo

SAMPLE C

27 **E**

mf

S. I was a young mo-ther I had two songs: one of

S. I was a young mo-ther mo-ther I had two songs: one of

A. *mf* When I was a young mo-ther I had two songs: one of

A. *mf* mo-ther I had two songs: one of

T. *mf* Oo one of

B. *mf* Oo one of

SAMPLE

31 *f* *ff* *mf* *f* *ff* **F**

S. ter-ror, ter-ror, ter-ror, one of terr-ror, terr-ror, ter - ror, *Tenderly solo or sop 2*

A. *f* *ff* *mf* *f* *ff* *p* one of love.

M. *mf* *f* *ff* *pp* Mm

B. *f* *ff* *mf* *f* *ff* *pp* Mm

ter-ror, ter-ror, ter-ror, one of terr-ror, terr-ror, ter - ror, Mm

COPY

37 *Tenderly solo or sop 1* *p* *3* *tutti mp* *mf* *p*

S. one of love, one of love, one of love. I

A. *3* *tutti mp* *mf* *p* one of love. I

M. *p* *mp* *mf* love, love.

B. *p* *mp* *mf* love, love.

mm mm

SAMPLE

5

42

mp *mf* *mp*

loud-er, loud-er, loud-er, I hope I sang it

hope I sang one loud-er, I hope I sang one loud-er, loud-er, I hope I sang it

hope I sang one loud-er, I hope I sang one loud-er, loud-er, I hope I sang it

I hope I sang one loud-er, loud-er, I hope I sang it

I hope I sang one loud-er, loud-er, loud-er, I hope I sang it

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46

mf **G**

like a prayer, a prayer, a prayer, a

like a prayer, a prayer, a prayer, a prayer,

like a prayer, a prayer, a prayer, a prayer,

like a prayer, a prayer, a prayer,

Oo a

Oo a

51

The musical score is for the song 'Prayer' (Geduld) by Franz Schubert. It is written for voice and piano. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 6/4. The score consists of six staves. The first five staves are for the voice, and the sixth staff is for the piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'prayer, like a prayer. Oo a prayer, a prayer. Oo like a prayer. Oo a prayer like a prayer. Oo prayer, like a prayer, a prayer. Oo prayer, a prayer, a prayer, a prayer. Oo'. The dynamics are marked as *f* (forte) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The tempo is marked 'Allegretto'. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, and dynamic markings.

f *mf*

prayer, _____ like a prayer. _____ Oo _____

f *mf*

a prayer, _____ a prayer. _____ Oo _____

f *mf*

_____ like a prayer. _____ Oo _____

f *mf*

a prayer like a prayer. _____ Oo _____

f *mf*

prayer, _____ like a prayer, _____ a prayer. _____ Oo _____

f *mf*

prayer, a prayer, a prayer, _____ a prayer. _____ Oo _____

COPY

sop I or solo

p *mp* *p* *pp*

I hope I sang it like a prayer.

Mm

Mm

Mm

Mm

Mm

p *mp* *p* *pp*

p *mp* *p* *pp*

B.