

# In the Lonely Midnight

(Theodore Chickering Williams)

SATB and orchestra



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Elizabeth Alexander

Seafarer Press

## In the Lonely Midnight

In the lonely midnight on the wintry hill,  
Shepherds heard the angels singing, "Peace, good will."  
Listen, O ye weary, to the angels' song,  
Unto to you the tidings of great joy belong.

Though in David's city angels sing no more,  
Love makes angel music on earth's darkest shore;  
Though no heavenly glory meet your wondering eyes,  
Love can make your dwelling bright as paradise.

Though the Child of Mary, sent from heaven on high,  
In His manger cradle may no longer lie,  
Love is King forever, though the proud world scorn;  
If ye truly seek Him, Christ your King is born.

Theodore Chickering Williams

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**Theodore Chickering Williams** (1855-1915) was a Unitarian minister, writer and translator, publishing several books of poetry and sermons, as well as Latin translations of Virgil. He wrote the lyrics to 20 hymns, some of which are still in standard usage.

A graduate of Harvard School of Divinity and Western Reserve University, Williams served as minister of the Unitarian Church of Winchester, Massachusetts and All Souls Church in New York City. He was the first headmaster of Hackley School in Tarrytown, NY and was later headmaster of Roxbury Latin School.

"In the Lonely Midnight" was originally set to music by Alonzo P. Howard (1838-1902), but was more often sung to the hymn tune, *Lyndhurst*. In recent years, the lyric has received other musical treatments, including a Solesmes plainsong setting and a pop song adaptation.

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Growing up in the Carolinas and Appalachian Ohio, **Elizabeth Alexander** gained her first love of language and music from her parents, a minister and a piano teacher. These twin passions are reflected in her catalogue of over 100 choral and vocal pieces, which have received over 20 national and international awards, and which have been performed by over 1000 choirs.

Reviewers have commented on "the close personal resonance between the composer and the words," her music's "delicacy and sincerity," and its "elegance, subtle unexpected harmonic turns, and...freshness within a well-known language."

Elizabeth lives in St. Paul, MN, where her frequent commissions include works for orchestra, chorus, chamber ensembles and soloists. She reads voraciously, shamelessly encourages her teenagers' jokes, and tends her garden during the three month period in Minnesota that is not winter. She believes she has the best job in the world.

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# **In the Lonely Midnight**

## **Instrumentation**

Flute  
Oboe  
Clarinet  
Bassoon

Horn  
2 Trumpets

Harp

1 Percussion:  
Triangle  
Bell Tree / Wind Chimes  
Suspended Cymbal  
Glockenspiel  
Chimes

Timpani

Strings

# In the Lonely Midnight

Theodore Chickering Williams

Elizabeth Alexander

(♩ = 88-92) *Pensively*

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. It begins with a 3/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked as 'Pensively' with a quarter note equal to 88-92 beats per minute. The score includes parts for Flute, Oboe, Clarinet in B-flat, Bassoon, Horn, 2 Trumpets in B-flat, Timpani, Percussion (Triangle), Harp, and a vocal quartet (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass). The string section consists of Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The woodwinds and strings play a melodic line with various articulations and dynamics, including *p* and *pp*. The vocal parts are currently silent, indicated by rests. The percussion part features a triangle with a specific rhythmic pattern. The harp part includes a sequence of chords and a rhythmic pattern indicated by '+' signs. The string parts have some 'div.' (divisi) and 'nondiv.' (non-divisi) markings.

7

Fl *p* *pp*

Ob

Cl *pp*

Bn *pp* *p*

Hn

Hp

S *pp*  
In the lone - ly mid - night on the win - try hill,

A *pp*  
In the lone - ly mid - night on the win - try hill,

T *pp*  
In the lone - ly mid - night on the win - try hill,

B *pp*  
In the lone - ly mid - night on the win - try hill, Shep - herds

Vln I *pp*

Vln II *pp*

Vla *pp*

Vc *pp*

Db *pp*

13

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bn

Hn

Perc  
Glockenspiel:

Hp

S  
Shep - herds heard the an - gels sing - ing "Peace, — good will." Lis - ten O — ye

A  
Shep - herds heard the an - gels sing - ing "Peace, — good will." — Lis - ten O — ye

T  
Shep - herds heard the an - gels sing - ing "Peace, — good will." —

B  
heard — the an - gels sing - ing "Peace, — good will."

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db

*p*

*pp*

*mp*

18

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bn

Hn

Perc (Glockenspiel)

Hp

S  
wear - y, to the an - gels' song, Un-to you the ti - dings of great

A  
wear - y, to the an - gels' song, Un-to you the ti - dings of great

T

B

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

div.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, numbered 4, is titled 'In the Lonely Midnight - Full Score'. It begins at measure 18. The score is arranged for a full orchestra and vocalists. The woodwind section includes Flute (Fl), Oboe (Ob), Clarinet (Cl), Bassoon (Bn), and Horn (Hn). The percussion section features a Glockenspiel. The keyboard section includes Harp (Hp). The vocal section consists of Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The string section includes Violin I (Vln I), Violin II (Vln II), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vc), and Double Bass (Db). The vocalists enter with the lyrics 'wear - y, to the an - gels' song, Un-to you the ti - dings of great'. The instrumental parts for Vln I, Vln II, Vla, and Vc are marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The Vln I part includes a 'div.' (divisi) instruction. The score is written in a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C).





29

Fl *mp* *mf*

Ob *mp* *mf*

Cl *mp* *mf*

Bn *mf*

Hn *mf*

Tp *mf*

Timp C → D

Hp *mp* *mf* Eb

S  
Un - to you the ti - dings of great joy — be - long.

A  
Un - to you the ti - dings of great joy — be - long.

T  
Un - to you the ti - dings of great joy be - long.

B  
Un - to you the ti - dings of great joy be - long.

Vln I *mf*

Vln II *mf*

Vla *mp* *mf*

Vc *mf*

Db *mp* *mf*

34

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bn

Hn

Tp

Hp

S

A

T

B

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db

*p*

*mp*

*pp*

*p*

*pp*

*pp*

*p*

*p*

Though in

Though in

**A**

In the Lonely Midnight - Full Score

40

Fl

Ob *p*

Cl

Bn *p*

Hn *p*

Timp *pp*

Perc Glockenspiel: *p*

Hp *p*

S

A

T *p*  
Da - - vid's ci - ty an - gels sing no more,

B *p*  
Da - - vid's ci - ty an - gels sing no more,

Vln I *pizz.* *p*

Vln II *pizz.* *p*

Vla *pizz.* *p*

Vc *p*

Db *p*

44

Fl *p*

Ob *p*

Cl *p*

Bn *p*

Timp D → C  $\emptyset$

Perc (Glockenspiel)

Hp  $E_b$

S *mp*

A *mp*

T *mp*

B *mp*

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db

Love makes an - gel mu - sic on earth's dark - - est shore; Though no

Love makes an - gel mu - sic on earth's dark - - est shore;— Though no

48

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bn

S  
heav'n - ly glo - ry meet your won - d'ring eyes, Love can make your

A  
heav'n - ly glo - ry meet your won - d'ring eyes, Love can make your

T  
heav'n - ly glo - ry meet your won - d'ring eyes, Love can make your

B  
heav'n - ly glo - ry meet your won - d'ring eyes, Love can make your

Vln I  
arco  
*p*

Vln II  
arco  
*p*

Vla  
arco  
*p*

Vc

Db

53

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bn

Hn

Tp

Timp

S

A

T

B

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*p*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

dwel - ing bright as pa - - ra - dise. Though no hea - ven - ly glo - ry meet your

dwel - ing bright as pa - - ra - dise. Though no hea - ven - ly glo - ry meet your

dwel - ing bright as pa - - ra - dise. Though no hea - ven - ly glo - ry meet your

dwel - ing bright as pa - - ra - dise. Though no hea - ven - ly glo - ry meet your

*2.*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

58

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bn

Hn

Tp

Timp

Perc

Sus. Cymbal:  
*p*

Hp

S

A

T

B

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db

won - d'ring eyes, Love can make your dwell - ing bright as pa - ra -

won - d'ring eyes, Love can make your dwell - ing bright as pa - ra -

won - d'ring eyes, Love can make your dwell - ing bright as pa - ra -

won - d'ring eyes, Love can make your dwell - ing bright as pa - ra -

63

Fl *mf*

Ob *mf*

Cl

Bn *mp*

Hn *mp*

Tp *mf*

Timp

Perc (Sus. Cymbal) *mp*

Perc Bell Tree or Wind Chime: *mf*

Hp *mp*

S *f* div. *f* - dise.

A *f* div. *f* - dise.

T *f* - dise.

B *f* div. *f* - dise.

Vln I *mf*

Vln II *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vc *mf*

Db *mf*



68 *with mystery*

Fl *p*

Ob

Cl *p*

Bn *pp*

Hn *pp*

Perc Glockenspiel: *pp*

Hp

S *with mystery pp*  
Though the

A *with mystery pp*  
Though the

T *with mystery pp*  
Though the

B *with mystery pp*  
Though the

Vln I *mp pp*

Vln II *mp pp*

Vla *mp*

Vc *mp*

Db

73

Fl *pp*

Perc Sus. Cymbal: *pp* *p*

Hp *p*

S  
Child of Ma - ry, sent from heav'n on high, In His man - ger

A  
Child of Ma - ry, sent from heav'n on high, In His man - ger

T  
Child of Ma - ry, sent from heav'n on high, In His man - ger

B  
Child of Ma - ry, sent from heav'n on high, In His man - ger

Vln I

Vln II

Vla *pp*

Vc *pp*

Db *pp*

78

Bn *mp*

Timp *pp*

Perc (Sus. Cymbal) *pp* *p*

Hp *mp*

S *mp*  
 cra - dle may no long - er lie, Love is King — for - ev - er, though the

A *mp*  
 cra - dle may no long - er lie, Love is King — for - ev - er, though the

T *mp*  
 cra - dle may no long - er lie, Love is King — for - ev - er, though the

B *mp*  
 cra - dle may no long - er lie, Love is King for - ev - er, though the

Vln I *mp*

Vln II

Vla *mp*

Vc *mp*

Db

83

Fl *mp*

Ob

Cl *mp*

Bn *mp*

Hn *mp*

Timp *p*

Hp

S  
proud world scorn.

A  
proud world scorn.

T  
proud world scorn.

B  
proud world scorn.

Vln I

Vln II *mp*

Vla

Vc

Db

*mf*

88

Fl *mf*

Ob *mf*

Cl *mf*

Bn *mf*

Hn *mf*

Timp *pp*

Hp *mf* *f* *gliss.*

S *div. f*  
If ye tru - ly seek Him, Christ your King is born. Love is

A *f*  
If ye tru - ly seek Him, Christ your King is born. Love is

T *f*  
If ye tru - ly seek Him, Christ your King is born. Love is

B *div. f*  
If ye tru - ly seek Him, Christ your King is born. Love is

Vln I *mf* *div.* *nondiv.*

Vln II *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vc *mf*

Db *mf*

Opal Palmer Adisa, poet ◦ Margaret & George Alexander, parents ◦ Yehuda Amichai, poet ◦ Bjorn Arneson, generous web designer ◦ Scott Bates, poet ◦ Abbie Betinis, composer/colleague ◦ Dennis Blubaugh, music dealer ◦ Michael deVernon Boblett, poet ◦ Ray Bradbury, writer ◦ Norbert Capek, visionary ◦ e. e. cummings, poet ◦ Philip Dacey, poet ◦ Emily Dickinson, poet ◦ Evelyn Dudley, poet ◦ Rob Eller-Isaacs, minister/writer ◦ Sophia Lyon Fahs, writer ◦ Richard M. Fewkes, writer ◦ Peshha Gertler, poet ◦ Richard S. Gilbert, minister/writer ◦ Jack Gallagher, composer/teacher ◦ Paul Gerike, proofreader ◦ Steve Harper, technical advisor ◦ Steve Hawkins, generous web designer ◦ Edie Hill, composer/colleague ◦ Langston Hughes, poet ◦ Mark Humphrey, piano technician ◦ Karel Husa, composer/teacher ◦ Kalidasa, poet ◦ Garrison Keillor, storyteller ◦ Denise Levertov, poet ◦ George Ella Lyon, poet ◦ Jonathan Machen, artist ◦ Edna St. Vincent Millay, poet ◦ J. David Moore, composer/colleague ◦ Joan Wolf Prefontaine, poet ◦ Gerald Rich, poet ◦ Carl Sandburg, poet ◦ King Sigismund III, religious reformer ◦ Steven Stucky, composer/teacher ◦ Rabindranath Tagore, poet ◦ Howard Thurman, civil rights leader/writer ◦ John Greenleaf Whittier, poet ◦ Theodore Chickering Williams, poet ◦ Daniel Winter, pianist/teacher ◦ Nancy Wood, poet ◦ Yehudi Wyner, composer/teacher ◦ Paul Adams, technical advisor ◦ Opal Palmer Adisa, poet ◦ Margaret & George Alexander, parents ◦ Yehuda Amichai, poet ◦ Bjorn Arneson, generous web designer ◦ Scott Bates, poet ◦ Abbie Betinis, composer/colleague ◦ Dennis Blubaugh, music dealer ◦ Michael deVernon Boblett, poet ◦ Ray Bradbury, writer ◦ Norbert Capek, visionary ◦ e. e. cummings, poet ◦ Philip Dacey, poet ◦ Emily Dickinson, poet ◦ Evelyn Dudley, poet ◦ Rob Eller-Isaacs, minister/writer ◦ Sophia Lyon Fahs, writer ◦ Richard M. Fewkes, writer ◦ Peshha Gertler, poet ◦ Richard S. Gilbert, minister/writer ◦ Jack Gallagher, composer/teacher ◦ Paul Gerike, proofreader ◦ Steve Harper, technical advisor ◦ Steve Hawkins, generous web designer ◦ Edie Hill, composer/colleague ◦ Langston Hughes, poet ◦ Mark Humphrey, piano technician ◦ Karel Husa, composer/teacher ◦ Kalidasa, poet ◦ Garrison Keillor, storyteller ◦ Denise Levertov, poet ◦ George Ella Lyon, poet ◦ Jonathan Machen, artist ◦ Edna St. Vincent Millay, poet ◦ J. David Moore, composer/colleague ◦ Joan Wolf Prefontaine, poet ◦ Gerald Rich, poet ◦ Carl Sandburg, poet ◦ King Sigismund III, religious reformer ◦ Steven Stucky, composer/teacher ◦ Rabindranath Tagore, poet ◦ Howard Thurman, civil rights leader/writer ◦ John Greenleaf Whittier, poet ◦ Theodore Chickering Williams, poet ◦ Daniel Winter, pianist/teacher ◦ Nancy Wood, poet ◦ Yehudi Wyner, composer/teacher ◦ Paul Adams, technical advisor ◦ Opal Palmer Adisa, poet ◦ Margaret & George Alexander, parents ◦ Yehuda Amichai, poet ◦ Bjorn Arneson, generous web designer ◦ Scott Bates, poet ◦ Abbie Betinis, composer/colleague ◦ Dennis Blubaugh, music dealer ◦ Michael deVernon Boblett, poet ◦ Ray Bradbury, writer ◦ Norbert Capek, visionary ◦ e. e. cummings, poet ◦ Philip Dacey, poet ◦ Emily Dickinson, poet ◦ Evelyn Dudley, poet ◦ Rob Eller-Isaacs, minister/writer ◦ Sophia Lyon Fahs, writer ◦ Richard M. Fewkes, writer ◦ Peshha Gertler, poet ◦ Richard S. Gilbert, minister/writer ◦ Jack Gallagher, composer/teacher ◦ Paul Gerike, proofreader ◦ Steve Harper, technical advisor ◦ Steve Hawkins, generous web designer ◦ Edie Hill, composer/colleague ◦ Langston Hughes, poet ◦ Mark Humphrey, piano technician ◦ Karel Husa,

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