

SG208B

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Give Me Hunger

For SATB (div.) mixed chorus

Stacy Garrop

PROGRAM NOTES

Carl Sandburg (1878-1967) was an American author known for his hard, unflinching observations that allow readers to experience Sandburg's pride, disdain, love, hatred, and sympathy for humanity through his works. In particular, his poetry grasps the best and worst of mankind, from the noblest aspirations of man to the subjugation of the poor, as well as to the trials and tribulations of the working class. Very few poems exhibit his softer side, and even fewer reflect his thoughts on love. *At a Window* (the poem's original title) is one of these rare gems in his body of work. Sandburg starts the poem angrily, challenging the forces that control the universe to take away all that he has; this anger quickly gives way to a surprising gentleness as he asks for love in place of all else. In my piece (titled *Give Me Hunger*, drawn from the first line of text), I reflect Sandburg's enraged voice with a relentless ostinato (a repeating gesture) coupled with dissonant chords; for the poem's softer side, I employ rich, lush harmonies to anticipate the "coming of a little love." This piece was commissioned by Chanticleer.

-S.G.

Text for *Give Me Hunger*
(poem originally titled *At a Window*)
By Carl Sandburg

Give me hunger,
O you gods that sit and give
The world its orders.
Give me hunger, pain and want,
Shut me out with shame and failure
From your doors of gold and fame,
Give me your shabbiest, weariest hunger!

But leave me a little love,
A voice to speak to me in the day end,
A hand to touch me in the dark room
Breaking the long loneliness.
In the dusk of day-shapes
Blurring the sunset,
One little wandering, western star
Thrust out from the changing shores of shadow.
Let me go to the window,
Watch there the day-shapes of dusk
And wait and know the coming
Of a little love.

"At a Window" from CHICAGO POEMS by Carl Sandburg. Copyright 1916 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company and renewed 1944 by Carl Sandburg. Used by permission of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

Give Me Hunger

Poem by
Carl Sandburg
(originally titled *At a Window*)

STACY GARROP
Spring 2013
Mixed chorus arr. by composer

$\text{♩} = 152-160$ *Strict tempo; tense*

p *mp*

SOPRANO
Give me hun - ger,

ALTO

TENOR
p *Sim.*
Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger,

BASS
p
Give me

Always sing with equal emphasis on each pitch *p*

$\text{♩} = 152-160$ *Strict tempo; tense*

Piano
(rehearsal only)

4

S.
Give me hun - ger,

A.
p *mp*
Give me hun - ger, O you gods

T.
Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger,

B.
hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give

p

7 *mp* *mf*

S. O you gods that sit and give the world its

A. *p* *mp*
Give me hun - ger, hun - ger,

T. *8*
Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger,

B. *8*
me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger,

10 *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

S. or - ders.

A. *p* *mp* *p* *mp*
Give me hun - ger, hun - ger, Give me hun - ger,

T. *8*
Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger,

B. *8*
Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun -

Solo; the accent indicates a short, crisp, bell-like attack on each note, then immediately back off (a subtle fp)
mp
(♩) (Preferred pitch if possible)
0

13

mp

S. hun - ger, pain and want, hun - ger, pain and

A. Give me hun - ger,

T. Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger,

B. ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give

(solo)

B. you gods

(piano accompaniment)

16

mf

S. want, Shut me out with shame and

A. Give me hun - ger, Shut me out with shame and

T. Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger,

B. me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger,

(solo)

B. 0

(piano accompaniment)

19

S. *mp*
fail - ure From your doors of gold and fame,

A. *mp*
fail - ure From your doors of gold and fame,

T. *p*
Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger,

B. *p*
Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me

B. *(solo)*
(p) you *(p)* gods

mp

22

S. *mf*
From your doors of gold and fame, *Gliss.*

A. *mf*
From your doors of gold and fame, *Gliss.*

T. *mf*
Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger,

B. *mf*
hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger,

B. *(solo)* *p* *mf*
O you gods O you gods

mf

Always sing with equal emphasis on each pitch

25

mp

S. Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give

A. Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger,

T. *fp* *Gliss.* Give me hun - ger, *mf*

B. *fp* *Tutti; Gliss.* Give me hun - ger, *mf*

mp


28

S. me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger,

A. Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger,

T. *fp* *mf* O you gods that sit and give The world

B. *fp* *mf* O you gods that sit and give The world



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43

S. Shut me out with shame and fail - ure

A. Shut me out with shame and fail - ure

T. *mp* Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger,

B. *mp* Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun -

B. *mp* (v.) O you

mp

46

S. *mp* From your doors of gold and fame, From your doors of

A. *mp* From your doors of gold and fame, From your doors of

T. *p* Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger, Give me hun-ger,

B. *p* ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me

B. *p* (solo) gods (Un-accented) *P* O

p

S. *f*
pain and want, Give me your shab - bi - est, wea - ri - est

A. *f*
hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me Give me your shab - bi - est, wea - ri - est,

A. *f*
Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me your shab - bi - est, wea - ri - est,

T. *f*
pain and want, Give me your shab - bi - est, wea - ri - est,

B. *f*
hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me Give me your shab - bi - est, wea - ri - est,

B. *f*
Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger,

S. *ff*
hun - ger! Give me Give me hun - ger, Give me Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger,

A. *ff*
hun - ger! Give me Give me hun - ger, Give me Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger,

T. *ff*
hun - ger! Give me Give me hun - ger, Give me Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger,

B. *ff*
hun - ger! Give me Give me hun - ger, Give me Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger, Give me hun - ger,

♩ = 63 Warmly, soothing

With some rubato, but keep the tempo moving

Solo *p*

68 *fff*

S. Give me But

A. Give me

T. Give me *pp* Oo Oo Oh Oo Oo Oh

B. Give me *pp* Oo Oo Oh Oo Oo Oh

♩ = 63 Warmly, soothing

With some rubato, but keep the tempo moving

78 (solo) *p*

S. leave me a lit-tle love, But

S. Solo *p* love,

A.

T. Oo Oo Oh Oo Oo Oh

B. Oo Oo Oh Oo Oo Oh

port.

86 (solo)


S. leave me a lit-tle love,

S. (solo) *p* love,

A. Solo *mp* A voice to speak to me in the

T. Oo Oo Oh Oo Oo

B. Oo Oo Oh Oo Oo



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116 *mp* *mf*

S. One lit - tle wan - dering, wes - tern star Thrust out Thrust

A. One lit - tle wan - dering, wes - tern star Thrust out Thrust

T. One lit - tle wan - dering, wes - tern star Thrust Thrust out from the chang - ing

B. One lit - tle wan - dering, wes - tern star Thrust Thrust out from the

120 *mp* *p* *Solo p* *pp*

S. out Oo Oh Oo Oh

A. out Oo Oh Oo Oh

T. shores of shad - ow. Let me go to the win - dow, Watch

B. chang - ing shores of shad - ow. Oh Oo

128

p

S. Watch And wait And wait And wait and

A. And wait And wait And wait and

(solo) *mp*
T. there the day-shapes of dusk

T. Watch Watch And wait wait and

B. Oh Oo Watch And wait wait and

p

With longing

Accel.

134

mp *mf* *f*

S. know the com-ing Of a lit-tle love. know the com-ing Of a lit-tle love. Let me

A. know the com-ing Of a lit-tle love. know the com-ing Of a lit-tle love.

mp *mf* *f*

T. know the com-ing Of a lit-tle love, know the com-ing Of a lit-tle love. Let me

B. know the com-ing Of a lit-tle know the com-ing Of a lit-tle love.

mp *mf* *f*

With longing *Accel.*

