

FULL SCORE

Lament of the EARTH

STEVE HEITZEG

*SATB Chorus, SATB Soli, Children's or Treble Choir, and Piano,
with opt. Timpani, Percussion, and Strings*

Texts by

Susan Palo Cherwien, Tachibana Hokushi, Winona LaDuke,
Terry Tempest Williams, and an African proverb as cited by Alice Walker


NATIONAL
LUTHERAN
CHOIR
Series


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David Cherwien, Artistic Director*

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presented by Chorus America
and funded by the American Composers Forum*

*Dedicated to Susan Palo Cherwien, Winona LaDuke, Alice Walker
and Terry Tempest Williams for their profound love of the earth*

First Performance

Clara Osowski, alto soloist
National Lutheran Choir
David Cherwien, Artistic Director/Conductor
Minnesota Boy Choir
Mark Johnson, Artistic Director
Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church

Mahtomedi, MN
May 1, 2022

Duration: 35:00

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"For that brief moment" by Tachibana Hokushi. Translated by Peter Bellenson, published in *The Four Seasons: Japanese Haiku Second Series* ©1928, 2012 by Peter Pauper Press. Used with permission. www.peterpauper.com

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Earth Aria I

"The world is holy. We are holy. All life is holy. Daily prayers are delivered on the lips of breaking waves, the whispering of grasses, the shimmering of leaves."

—Terry Tempest Williams

I. God Says Beauty

In the beginning
in the beginning
of God's creating
God said
Let there be.
And there is.

The galaxy patterns the atom
the sun patterns the eye
the cloud patterns the gneiss
the whirlwind patterns the nest
And God says
Tov! Beauty!

the cavern patterns the womb
the basalt patterns the cell
the crystal patterns the bone
the mud patterns the pelt
And God says
Tov! Beauty!

the river patterns the tree
the tree patterns the leaf
the root patterns the crown
the fern patterns the frost
the delta patterns the blood
the vine patterns the branch
the lightning patterns the thought
And God says
Beauty!

the dune patterns the fur
the web patterns the wing
the snowline patterns the brain
the meander patterns the poem
And God, and God says
"Beauty!"

And creation, creation sings
"Glory!"

—Susan Palo Cherwien and Genesis 1

Earth Aria II

"Power is not brute force and money; power is in your spirit. Power is in your soul. It is what your ancestors, your old people gave you. Power is in the earth; it is your relationship to the earth."

—Winona LaDuke

II. Earth Speaks: The Reproach

O my people,
what more could I have done for you
that I have not done?

Answer me.

Answer me.

My seas in your cells
My rock in your bones
My sky in your breath
My sun in your thought

Is it nothing to you
all you who pass by?
Behold and see
if there be any sorrow
like unto my sorrow...
behold and see.

Your greed soils my seas
Your waste fires my rock
Your wrath floods my sky
Your sloth clouds my sun

O my people,
what more could I have done for you
that I have not done?

Answer me.

Answer me.

—Micah 6:3; Lamentations 1:12;
with tropes by Susan Palo Cherwien

Earth Aria III

“When the axe came into the forest, the trees said: The handle is one of us.”

—an African proverb as cited by Alice Walker in *Possessing the Secret of Joy*

III. *Ashamnu* (We Have Trespassed)

O God, Mystery pulsing
 through all and in all and for all that is—
 God of all generations,
 let our prayers rise, rise before you
 let them not fade, fade like wisps of smoke
 we are not made of brass
 we are not loath to bow
 we do not scoff, saying
 “No, we have not **sinned!**”^{*}
 we know, we know,
 Indeed we have **sinned**
 our ancestors have **sinned**
 we have all sinned
 against You, O God,
 against You,
 and against Your creation.
 Ah,
 we have **axed**
 we have **barbed**
 we have **caged**, we have **charred**
 Ah=
 we have **dammed**, we have **deflowered**
 we have **eclipsed**, we have **empired**
 we have **fenced**
 we have **gorged**
 we have **hoarded**
 we have **ignored**
 Ah...
 we have **jaded**
 we have **killed**
loosed, marred, nulled
 we have **orphaned**
 we have **poisoned**
quashed, robbed, ruined
 Ah!

* At each of the bold words, the singers strike their chests with the fist of their right hand, about at heart level. Not hard, but like a knock to awaken the heart.

we have **stomped**, we have **saddened**
 we have **tethered**, we have **threatened**
 we have **undermined, uprooted,**
violated, wasted
 we have **excluded, executed**
 we have **extracted**, we have **exhausted**
 we have **yawned**, we have **dozed...**
 Ah.

O God, Mystery pulsing
 through all and in all and for all that is—

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
 and renew a right spirit within me.

Amen

—Susan Palo Cherwien,
 based on the *Ashamnu*, “We have trespassed,”
 Jewish prayer from Yom Kippur

Earth Aria IV

*For that brief moment
 when the fire-fly went out...O
 the lonely darkness.*

—Taschibana Hokushi

IV. Hozhóogo naasháa doo: May I Walk in Beauty

May I walk in Beauty like the stars
 like sun on leaf, so may I walk
 May I walk in Beauty like the mist
 like dew on field, so may I walk
 May I walk in Beauty like the breeze
 like night on sky, so may I walk
 May I walk in Beauty like the earth
 like moss on rock, so may I walk

Beauty in my feet
 Beauty in my hands
 Beauty in my heart
 Beauty in my eyes
 Beauty in my words.

—Susan Palo Cherwien,
 based on a traditional Diné prayer

INSTRUMENTATION

Timpani

Percussion

Bamboo Wind Chimes
Bass Drum
Bongos (2)
Chimes
Claves
Crystal Singing Bowl pitched at C#/D \flat
Driftwood (2 pieces)
Glockenspiel
Guiro
Hand Cymbals
Hempseed and Corn Rattle
Mark Tree
Metal Plate with metal hammer
Ocean Drum
Plastic bags filled with small pieces of plastic (2)
Quica Drum
Ratchet
Sandpaper Blocks
Sea Shell Wind Chimes (Capiz)
Stones (2)
Suspended Cymbal (large)
Tambourine
Tam-tam
Temple Blocks
Triangle
Vibraslap
Whip
Wild Rice and Bluestem Grass Seed Rattle
Xylophone

Guitar (optional)

Ukulele (optional)

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass

7

C.C. *mp*
The world is ho-ly. — We are ho-ly. — All life is ho-ly. — Dai-ly Prayers are de-

S *hm*

A *hm* *hm*

T

B

Timp.

I *mp*
Perc. *Tam-tam*

II *p*

Vln. I *mp*

Vln. II *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vnc. *mp* *pizz., unis.*

Cb. *mp* *pizz.*

11 *molto accel.*
poco a poco cresc.

C.C. *f*
liv-ered on the lips of break-ing waves,— the whis-per-ing of grass-es,— the shim-mer-ing of leaves. ah—

S *f*
ah—

A

T

B

Timp. *molto accel.*

Perc.
I *p*
II *mp* *l.v.* *p*

Vln. I *molto accel.*
poco a poco cresc. *f*
II *poco a poco cresc.* *f*

Vla. *poco a poco cresc.*

Vnc. *poco a poco cresc.*

Cb. *poco a poco cresc.* *arco*

I. God Says Beauty

Susan Palo Cherwien

Vivo (♩ = 150)

S
A
T
B

(clap) (clap) (clap) (clap)

(clap) (clap) (clap) (clap)

(clap) (clap) (clap) (clap)

(clap) (clap) (clap) (clap)

Vivo (♩ = 150)

Timp.

f
Stones

Perc.

f
Xylophone

Vivo (♩ = 150)

I
II

Vln.

f

Vla.

f

Vnc.

f

Cb.

f

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S
(clap)

A
(clap)

T
(clap)

B
(clap)

Timp.

I

Perc.
II

I
Vln.

II

Vla.

Vnc.

Cb.

9 *sub. p*

S
ah ah ah ah

A
ah ah ah ah

T
ah ah ah ah

B
ah ah ah ah

Timp.
sub. p

I
sub. p

Perc.
II
sub. p

Vln. I
pizz. sub. p

Vln. II
pizz. sub. p

Vla.
pizz. sub. p

Vnc.
pizz. sub. p

Cb.
pizz. sub. p

Earth Aria II: Power Is in the Earth

Winona LaDuke

Deeply-Rooted, Grounded (♩ = 72)

mf spoken

Childrens' Choir

S

A

T

B

Pow-er is not_ brute force and mon-ey;

(humming)

(humming)

Deeply-Rooted, Grounded (♩ = 72)

Timp.

I

Perc.

II

Hempseed & Corn Rattle

Wild Rice & Bluestem Grass Seed Rattle

p

Deeply-Rooted, Grounded (♩ = 72)

I

II

Vln.

Vla.

Vnc.

Cb.

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9

C.C.

S

A

T

B

Timp.

I

Perc.

II

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vnc.

Cb.

p

p

p

p

pizz.

p

II. Earth Speaks: The Reproach

Susan Palo Cherwien

With disappointment (♩ = 56)

Alto Solo
p

O my peo - ple, what more could I have done for you that I have not done?

S
A
T
B

With disappointment (♩ = 56)

Timp.

Vibraslap
l.v.

I

Perc.

Tam-tam

II

p

l.v.

With disappointment (♩ = 56)

sul pont.

I

Vln. *sfp*

II *sul pont.*

Vla. *sfp*

Vnc. *sul pont.*

Cb. *sfp*

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MSM-70-400A

11

S *mp* *mf*
O my peo - ple, O my peo - ple,

A *mp* *mf*
O my peo - ple, O my peo - ple,

T *mp* *mf*
O my peo - ple, O my peo - ple,

B *mp* *mf*
O my peo - ple, O my peo - ple,

Timp.

I *mp* *mf*
Perc.

II *mp* *mf*

I *mp* *mf*
Vln.

II *mp* *mf*

Vla. *mp* *mf*

Vnc. *mp* *mf*

Cb. *mp* *mf*

Earth Aria III: When the Axe Came into the Forest

African proverb as cited by Alice Walker in
Possessing the Secret of Joy

Marziale, foreboding (♩ = 160)

p

S
hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo

A
hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo

T
hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo

B
hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo

Marziale, foreboding (♩ = 160)

Claves

p

Perc. I
hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo

Temple Blocks

p

Perc. II
hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo

5

S
hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo

A
hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo

T
hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo

B
hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo

Perc. I
hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo

Perc. II
hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo

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MSM-70-400A

11

S
hoo *f*

A
hoo *f*

T
hoo *f*

B
hoo *f*

I
Perc. *f*

II *f*

Subito meno mosso (♩. = 84)

17

Children's
Choir *f*
When the axe came in - to the for - est, When the axe came in - to the for - est, the

S
When the axe came in - to the for - - - est,

A
When the axe came in - to the for - - - est,

T
When the axe came in - to the for - - - est,

B
When the axe came in - to the for - - - est,

Subito meno mosso (♩. = 84)

I
Perc. *f*

II *f*

21 *sub. p* *poco a poco cresc.* *rit.* *mf* **Intense** (♩ = 100)

C.C. trees _____ whis-pered, the trees _____ whis-pered, the trees _____ whis-pered:

S *sub. p* *poco a poco cresc.* *mf* *p* (half-whispered)
Oh _____ Oh _____ Oh _____ the han-dle is one of us, the

A *sub. p* *poco a poco cresc.* *mf* *p* (half-whispered)
Oh _____ Oh _____ Oh _____ the han-dle is one of us, the

T *sub. p* *poco a poco cresc.* *mf* *p* (half-whispered)
Oh _____ Oh _____ Oh _____ the han-dle is one of us, the

B *sub. p* *poco a poco cresc.* *mf* *p* (half-whispered)
Oh _____ Oh _____ Oh _____ the han-dle is one of us, the

Perc. I *sub. p* *poco a poco cresc.* *mf* *p*
II *sub. p* *poco a poco cresc.* *mf* *p*

26 *poco a poco accel.* *poco a poco cresc.*

S han-dle is one of us, the han-dle is one of us, the han-dle is one of us, the

A *poco a poco cresc.*
han-dle is one of us, the han-dle is one of us, the han-dle is one of us, the

T *poco a poco cresc.*
han-dle is one of us, the han-dle is one of us, the han-dle is one of us, the

B *poco a poco cresc.*
han-dle is one of us, the han-dle is one of us, the han-dle is one of us, the

Perc. I *poco a poco accel.*
II *poco a poco cresc.*

poco a poco cresc.

III. Ashamnu (We Have Trespassed)

Susan Palo Cherwien

With spirit, dance-like (♩ = 108)

S
A
T
B

O God, Mys-ter - y puls - ing through -

O God, Mys-ter - y puls - ing through -

Timp.

f

Bongos

I
II

f *sub. mp*

Tambourine
(with knuckles) (with fingers)

f *sub. mp*

Vln. I
II

non div. *f* *sub. mp legg.* *pizz.*

Vla.

non div. *f* *sub. mp pizz.*

Vnc.

non div. *f*

Cb.

f

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MSM-70-400A

9

S
all_ and in_ all and_ for all_ that is- God of all gen - er - a - tions,

A
all_ and in_ all and_ for all_ that is- God of all gen - er - a - tions,

T
mp
God of all gen - er - a - tions,

B
mp
God, God of all

Timp.

I
Perc.

II
(shake)

I
Vln.
II

Vla.
arco

Vnc.
mp

Cb.
pizz.
mp

14

S *poco a poco cresc.*
 God of all gen-er-a - tions, God of all gen-er-a - tions, God of all gen-er-a - tions,

A *poco a poco cresc.*
 God of all gen-er-a - tions, God of all gen-er-a - tions, God of all gen-er-a - tions,

T *poco a poco cresc.*
 God of all gen-er-a - tions, God of all gen-er-a - tions, God of all gen-er-a - tions, -

B *poco a poco cresc.*
 gen - er - a - tions, God, God of all gen - er - a - tions,

Timp.

I *poco a poco cresc.*

Perc. II *poco a poco cresc.* (shake)

I *poco a poco cresc.*

Vln. II *poco a poco cresc.*

Vla. *poco a poco cresc.*

Vnc. *poco a poco cresc.*

Cb. *poco a poco cresc.*

Earth Aria IV: For That Brief Moment

Tachibana Hokushi

Adagio ma mosso (♩ = 66)

Children's Choir

S

A

T

B

Adagio ma mosso (♩ = 66)

Crystal Singing Bowl D \flat /C \sharp (throughout)

pp

Bamboo Wind Chimes (throughout)

pp

Adagio ma mosso (♩ = 66)

pizz.

p

pizz.

p

pizz.

p

pizz.

p

arco

p

Text: Hokushi (1665–1718). “For that brief moment.” Translated by Peter Beilenson, published in The Four Seasons © 1958 by Peter Pauper Press, Inc. www.peterpauper.com. Used with permission.

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MSM-70-400A

7 Youth Singer (Solo)

C.C. *p*
For _____ that _____ brief _____ mo - ment when the fi - re - fly went _out...

S
A
T
B

Perc.
I
II

Vln. *arco*
I
II

Vla.
Vnc.
Cb.

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. At the top, the vocal line for the Youth Singer (Solo) is written in treble clef with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The lyrics are: "For _____ that _____ brief _____ mo - ment when the fi - re - fly went _out...". Below the vocal line are staves for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B), all of which contain whole rests. The percussion section consists of two staves, I and II, with rhythmic notation. The string section includes Violins (Vln. I and II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vnc.), and Contrabass (Cb.), with various rhythmic and melodic lines. A large, diagonal watermark reading "Copyrighted material" is overlaid across the entire page.

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C.C. *rit.* *a tempo*
O — the — lone — ly — dark — ness, dark — ness, O —

S

A

T

B

Perc. *rit.* *a tempo*

I

II

Vln. *rit.* *a tempo*

II *arco*

Vla.

Vnc.

Cb.

IV. Hozhóogo naasháa doo: May I walk in Beauty

Susan Palo Cherwien, based on a traditional Diné prayer

Ceremonial (♩ = 44)

p

S
A
T
B

Beau-ty in my feet Beau-ty in my hands Beau-ty in my

Ceremonial (♩ = 44)

Timp.

I
Perc.
II

Guitar and/or Ukulele (*optional*)

C Csus C/G

p

Ceremonial (♩ = 44)

non div.

I
Vln.
II

p

Vla.
div.

Vnc.
p

Cb.
p

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5

S
heart Beau-ty in my eyes Beau-ty in my words.

A
heart Beau-ty in my eyes Beau-ty in my words.

T
heart Beau-ty in my eyes Beau-ty in my words.

B
heart Beau-ty in my eyes Beau-ty in my words.

Timp.

I
Perc.

II

Gtr. Uke.
Fsus F Csus C C9 C

Vln. I
II

Vla.
div. *unis.* *div.*

Vnc.
unis. *div.*

Cb.

Piú mosso (♩ = 54)

Children's Choir

mp

8 Children's Choir

May I walk in Beau-ty like the stars like sun on leaf, so may I walk, so may I

S
ah ah ah ah

A
ah ah ah ah

T
ah ah ah ah

B
ah ah ah ah

Piú mosso (♩ = 54)

Timp.

I Perc.

II Perc.

Gtr. Uke.

Fma7 A m E m/G D/F# D m G D m7

Piú mosso (♩ = 54)

unis.

I Vln.

II Vln.

Vla. *non div.* *unis.*

Vnc. *unis.* *non div.* *unis.*

Cb. *pizz.*