

PROGRAM NOTES

Deep in the grip of 2020's lockdown, Barnaby Smith reached out to see if I would write something for an upcoming VOCES8 album, which would focus on themes of space, the universe, infinity. I was eager to do anything to distract from the pandemic and keen to find a text that easily fit on the recording, yet didn't feel ubiquitous. So I searched, desperate to find words that had never been paired with music, and one evening, just before giving up, I stumbled onto a poet's Instagram page. Her words were beautifully and elegantly laid out as though they were art, and they drew me in like they had their own gravitational pull.

I wrote Clairel Estévez out of the blue to ask permission to set her evocative poetry. She was gracious and willing, so I got to work. The end result is what you are holding, and while we've never met or even spoken on the phone, our art entangles us. Three years later as I write this, it's not lost on me what an immense gift her poem has been.

—Taylor Scott Davis

TEXT

A love like ours,
Sincere and pure
Deserves to be guided by angels,
Deep, into the unknown.
On a bed of eternity
Lay down its ivory bones.
Until destiny and time collide
And make of them—*Stardust*.

—Clairel G. Estévez
www.Thewishfulbox.com

Available Editions

► Choir Score	9239
Additional Orchestra Score	9239A
Orchestra Score and Parts	RENTAL

Taylor Scott Davis (b. 1980)

For biographical information visit:
www.ecspublishing.com

Stardust

for SATB Chorus (divisi) unaccompanied,
with opt. Piano or Orchestra

Clairel G. Estévez

Taylor Scott Davis (BMI)

Adagio *p*

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Opt. Piano

7 *con moto* *mp*

S

A

T

B

con moto *mp*

A love

like ours, a love like ours, sin -

Oo A love like ours, sin -

Oo A love like ours, sin -

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11 *mf* *mp* *rit.* *p* *a tempo*

cere and pure. A love

cere and pure. A love

cere and pure. A love

cere and pure. A love

mf *mp* *rit.* *p* *a tempo*

like ours, sin - cere and

like ours, sin - cere and

like ours, sin - cere and

14

like ours, sin - cere and

like ours, sin - cere and

like ours, sin - cere and

accel.
cresc. poco a poco

18

De - serves to be
pure. De - serves to be
pure. De - serves to be
pure. De - serves to be

mf *mf* *mf* *mf*

cresc. poco a poco *cresc. poco a poco* *cresc. poco a poco* *cresc. poco a poco*

mp *mf* *cresc. poco a poco*

3

Broaden
f

guid - ed by an - gels,
guid - ed by an - gels,
guid - ed by an - gels,
guid - ed by an - gels,

(cresc.) *(cresc.)* *(cresc.)* *(cresc.)*

f *f* *f* *f*

Broaden

(cresc.) *f*

3

24 *mf* *rubato*
p

an - gels. Deep, the

mf *p*

an - gels. Deep, the

unis. mf *p*

an - gels. Deep, deep in - to the

mf *p*

an - gels. Deep, deep in - to the

rubato
p

27 *pp*

un known, the un - known.

pp

un - known, the un - known.

pp

un - known, the un - known.

pp

un - known, the un - known.

p

31 ♩ = 50

Musical staff for measure 31, showing a whole note chord in 6/4 time.

unis. mp

Vocal staff for soprano part, measure 31. Lyrics: On a bed of e - ter - ni - ty, e -

unis. mp

Vocal staff for alto part, measure 31. Lyrics: On a bed of e - ter - ni - ty, e -

unis. mp

Vocal staff for bass part, measure 31. Lyrics: On a bed of e - ter - ni - ty, e -

♩ = 50

Piano accompaniment for measures 31-34, showing rests in both hands.

35

unis. p

Vocal staff for soprano part, measure 35. Lyrics: Lay

p

Vocal staff for alto part, measure 35. Lyrics: lay

unis.

Vocal staff for bass part, measure 35. Lyrics: ter - ni - ty, e - ter - ni - ty, lay

unis. p

Piano accompaniment for measure 35, showing rests in both hands.

Piano accompaniment for measures 35-38, showing rests in both hands.

38 *mp cresc. poco a poco*

down, lay down, lay down its

mp cresc. poco a poco

down, lay down, its

mp cresc. poco a poco unis.

down, lay down, lay down its

mp cresc. poco a poco

down, lay down, lay down its

mp cresc. poco a poco

42 *mf* *rit.* *3* *accel.* *mp*

i - vo - ry bones. Un - til, un -

mf *mp*

i - vo - ry bones. Un - til, un -

mf *mp*

i - vo - ry bones. Un - til, un -

mf *mp*

i - vo - ry, i - vo - ry bones. Un - til

rit. *accel.*

molto rit.

45

f *ff*

til des - ti - ny and

f *ff*

til des - ti - ny and

f *ff*

til des - ti - ny and

unis. f *ff*

des - ti - ny and

molto rit.

48

Tempo I

time col - lide, des - ti - ny and

time col - lide, des - ti - ny and

time col - lide, des - ti - ny and

time col - lide, col - lide, and

Tempo I

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

rit.

51 des - ti - ny and time *unis. mp*

time col - lide, *mp*

time col - lide, *mp*

time col - lide, *mp*

time col - lide, *mp*

rit.

p

55 *a tempo*

unis. p

and make

p *sim.*

p *sim.*

a tempo

p

61

relaxed

p

star - dust,
of _____ them star - dust,
Oo star - dust,
Oo star - dust,
relaxed

65

pp

pp

unis. pp

unis. pp

star - dust, star - dust. star - dust.
star - dust, *pp* star - dust.
star - dust, *unis. pp* star - dust.
star - dust, *unis. pp* star - dust.
pp
ped.