

JUDITH SHATIN

A Line-Storm Song

Soprano and Piano



Program Note

Robert Frost's poem, *A Line-Storm Song*, is a love poem, where love has been through a wild storm, and yet persists. In my setting, I have tried to capture something of the wistful, wild, urgent nature of the poem. This song was commissioned by the Ensemble for These Times, through their Jewish Music and Poetry Project, with support from the Jewish Music Commission of Los Angeles. Nanette McGuinness and Dale Tsang premiered it on their Trinity Chamber Concert on 06/11/16. The Tuesday Musical Club of Pittsburgh presented the mezzo version, with Katherine Soroka and pianist Nathan Carterette, I am grateful to Katherine for her insightful editorial suggestions. I dedicate this song to my beloved Michael. For additional information, visit www.judithshatin.com –JS

Duration: 4:10

A Line-Storm Song

By Robert Frost

The line-storm clouds fly tattered and swift.
The road is forlorn all day,
Where a myriad snowy quartz stones lift,
And the hoof-prints vanish away.
The roadside flowers, too wet for the bee,
Expend their bloom in vain.
Come over the hills and far with me,
And be my love in the rain.

The birds have less to say for themselves
In the wood-world's torn despair
Than now these numberless years the elves,
Although they are no less there:
All song of the woods is crushed like some
Wild, easily shattered rose
Come, be my love in the wet woods, come,
Where the boughs rain when it blows.

There is the gale to urge behind
And bruit our singing down,
And the shallow waters aflutter with wind
From which to gather your gown.
What matter if we go clear to the west,
And come not through dry-shod?
For wilding brooch shall wet your breast
The rain-fresh goldenrod.

Oh, never this whelming east wind swells
But it seems like the sea's return
To the ancient lands where it left the shells
Before the age of the fern;
And it seems like the time when after doubt
Our love came back again.
Oh, come forth into the storm and rout
And be my love in the rain.

A Line-Storm Song

Judith Shatin

Flowing ♩ = ca. 120

Soprano

Piano

mf

4

S

The line - storm clouds fly tat - tered and swift, _____ The

Pno.

7

S

road is forlorn all day, Where a my - ri - ad snow-y quartz stones

Pno.

ped sim.

S
10 lift, _____ And the hoof-prints va - nish a way. _____ The

Pno.

S
13 road - side flow - ers, too wet for the bee, Ex pend _____ their bloom _____ in

Pno.

S
16 *f* vain Come *mf* o - ver the hills and far _____ with me, And

Pno.

S
19 be _____ my love _____ in the rain. _____ The

Pno.

22

S

birds have less to say for them - selves In the wood - world's torn de -

Pno.

25

S

f spair Than *mf* now these num - ber-less years the elves, Al - though they are

Pno.

f *mf*

28

S

no less there; *p* All song of the woods is *mf*

Pno.

ped sim. *p* *mf*

31

S

mf crushed like some wild, ea - si - ly shat - tered rose.

Pno.

f *mf*

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

34 *poco rit.* ----- *mf* *A tempo*

S
Come, be _____ my love in the

Pno. *f* *mf*

36

S
wet woods, come, Where the boughs rain when it

Pno.

38 *f* ----- *mf*

S
blows. _____ There

Pno. *f* *mf* *mp*

41 *f* *mf*

S
is the gale to urge be - hind _____ And

Pno. *mf* *8va* ----- *mf*

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

44 *mp*

S
bruit our sing - ing down

Pno.

47 *mf*

S
And the shal - low wa - ters a -

Pno.

49

S
flut - ter with wind from which to ga - ther your

Pno.

51

S
gown. What mat - ter if we go clear to the west, And

Pno.

54

S

come not through dry - shod? For wild _____ ing brooch shall

Pno.

57

S

wet your breast The rain - fresh gold - en rod. Oh,

Pno.

60

S

ne - ver this whelm _____ ing east _____ wind swells _____ But it

Pno.

62

S

seems like the sea's re - turn To the an - cient lands where it

Pno.

mf

ped sim.

PERUSAL SCORE! NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

The image shows a musical score for a song. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (S) and a piano accompaniment (Pno.). The vocal line is in treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature is 4/4. The score includes lyrics and dynamic markings such as *f*, *mf*, and *ped sim.*. A large watermark 'PERUSAL SCORE! NOT FOR PERFORMANCE' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

65

S

left the shells Be - fore the age of the

Pno.

67

S

fern; And it seems like the time when

Pno.

69

S

af - ter doubt Our love came back a -

Pno.

71

S

gain. Oh, — come — forth in - to the

Pno.

S 73 *f* storm and rout *mf* And

Pno. *f*

S 74 *f* be my love *mf* a *poco rit.*

Pno. *mf* *f* *mf*

S 75 *rit. a piacere* gain. *p*

Pno. *mf* *p*