

# THE DAY SKY

BY PAUL SMITH

FOR CHOIR SATB

Voces 8  
PUBLISHING

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# THE DAY SKY

by PAUL SMITH (1981 -)

text by Hafiz

VOCES8  
PUBLISHING

Forces | SATB

Duration | c. 2'

Difficulty | Easy - The textures and harmony are fairly simple but flexibility and care are required by both singers and director to draw the most out of the work.

## About the piece

It was a genuine gift to be asked to write this piece for the wedding of Barney, my brother to his wife, Libby in 2022. The wedding took place in Cambridge just after Christmas and was a moving, joyous and beautiful occasion. The choir was wonderful - formed of singers from VOCES8, Apollo5 and other UK ensembles, with Eamonn Dougan and Robert Hollingworth conducting. With other premieres written for the wedding by Taylor Scott Davis and Eric Whitacre, and the baptism of my nephew, Orlando also taking place in the ceremony, it was an event that will live long in our memories.

This piece is very much written as a 'miniature', a moment for thought, reflection and beauty. I presented Barney and Libby with a number of choices for the text and was thrilled when they chose this beautiful poem by Hafiz. As you sing the piece, you can look both for the moments of space and calm, and for the moments where the music can flow and soar. In particular, I'd encourage you to give wings to the music in bar 34, before finishing with that most magical and important of words: 'Love'.

Paul Smith, July 2023

## Text

Let us be like two falling stars in the day sky;

Let no one know of our sublime beauty  
as we hold hands with God.

And burn into a sacred existence that defies,  
that surpasses every description of ecstasy  
and Love.

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# THE DAY SKY

Hafiz

PAUL SMITH (1981 -)

**With love and conviction**  $\text{♩} = 50$   
*mp* *warmer* *mf*

Soprano  
Let us, let us, be like two fall - ing stars

Alto  
Let us, let us, be like fall - ing

Tenor  
Let us, let us, be like fall - - ing

Bass  
Let us, let us, be like fall - - ing

for rehearsal only

The first system of the musical score is for the vocalists and piano. It features five staves: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and Piano. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/2. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 50. The dynamics are *mp* (mezzo-piano) for the vocalists and piano, and *mf* (mezzo-forte) for the piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'Let us, let us, be like two fall - ing stars'. A large 'FOR PREVIEW ONLY' watermark is overlaid on the score.

8

like two fall - ing stars

stars, like two, two fall - ing stars,

stars, like two fall - - - ing stars,

stars, like two fall - - ing stars,

The second system of the musical score continues the vocal lines and piano accompaniment. It features five staves: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and Piano. The lyrics are: 'like two fall - ing stars', 'stars, like two, two fall - ing stars,', 'stars, like two fall - - - ing stars,', and 'stars, like two fall - - ing stars,'. A large 'FOR PREVIEW ONLY' watermark is overlaid on the score.

14 *warm* *soft* *mf* *mystery*

in the day sky, in the day sky. Let no one know of our sub - lime

*warm* *soft* *mf* *mystery*

in the day sky, in the day sky. Let no one know of our sub - lime

*warm* *soft* *mf* *mystery*

in the day sky, in the day sky. Let no one know of our sub - lime

*warm* *soft* *mf* *mystery*

in the day sky, in the day sky. Let no one know of our sub - lime

21 *mp* *p*

beau - ty as we hold hands with God, with God, God.

*mp* *p*

beau - ty as we hold hands with God, with God, God.

*mp* *p*

beau - ty as we hold hands with God, with God, God.

*mp* *p*

beau - ty as we hold hands with God, with God, God.

28

*mf* *cresc. poco a poco*

sac - red ex - ist - ence that de -

*mf* *cresc. poco a poco*

sac - red ex - ist - ence that de -

*mf* *cresc. poco a poco*

in - to a sac - red ex - ist - ence that de -

*mp with warmth* *mf* *cresc. poco a poco*

And burn sac - red ex - ist - ence that de -

34

*agile, soaring* *poco accel.*

-fies, that sur - pass - es ev' - ry des - crip - tion of ecs - ta - sy

*agile, soaring*

-fies, that sur - pass - es ev' - ry des - crip - tion of ecs - ta - sy

*agile, soaring*

-fies, that sur - pass - es ev' - ry des - crip - tion of ecs - ta - sy

*agile, soaring*

-fies, that sur - pass - es ev' - ry des - crip - tion of ecs - ta - sy

38 *a tempo* *f* *affirming* *magical* *joyful*

and Love, and Love, and Love.  
*f* *affirming* *magical* *joyful*

and Love, and Love, and Love.  
*f* *affirming* *magical* *joyful*

and Love, and Love, and Love.  
*f* *affirming* *magical* *joyful*

and Love, and Love, and Love.  
*f* *affirming* *magical* *joyful*

*f*