



It's strange about stars...

for TTBB choir

Melissa Dunphy
Text by Lola Ridge

3 min

2014

Arranged 2020
with thanks to Cantus

for all the survivors

It's strange about stars ...
You have to be still when they look at you.
They push your song inside of you with their song.
Their long silvery rays
sink into you and do not hurt.
It is good to feel them resting on you
like great white birds...
and their shining whiteness
doesn't burn like the sun —
it washes all over you
and makes you feel cleaner'n water.

—From *Sun-Up [IV. Betty]* by Lola Ridge (1920)



Mormolyke
Press

103 Callowhill St., Philadelphia, PA 19123
(717) 214-6121 | www.mormolyke.com

It's strange about stars...

Lyrics by Lola Ridge

Melissa Dunphy

Adagio ♩ = 60

pp *p* *f*

Tenor
It's strange a-bout stars... It's strange, You have to be

pp *p* *mf* *f*

Tenor
It's strange a-bout stars... It's strange, it's strange, You have to be

pp *p* *f*

Bass
It's strange a-bout stars... It's strange a-bout stars... You have to be

pp *p* *f*

Bass
It's strange, It's strange, You have to be

Adagio ♩ = 60

mf

Reduction

sub p *p* *f*

T.
still when they look at you. They push, push, push your

sub p *p* *f*

T.
still, still when they look at you. They push, push, push your

sub p *p* *f*

B.
still when they look at you. They push, push, push your

sub p *p* *f*

B.
still, still when they look at you. They push, push, push, push your

sub p *p* *f*

Reduction

11

T. *mf* *f* *mp*
song in - side of you with their song. Their long, long sil - ver-y rays

T. *mf* *f* *mp*
song in - side of you with their song. Their long, long, long sil - ver-y rays

B. *mf* *f* *mp*
song in - side of you with their song. Their long, long, sil - ver-y rays

B. *mf* *f* *mp*
song in-side of you with their song. Their sil - ver-y rays

mf *f* *mp*

17

T. *f*
sink in-to you and do not hurt. It is good to feel them rest - ing on

T. *f*
sink in-to you and do not hurt. It is good to feel them rest - ing on

B. *f*
sink in-to you and do not hurt. It is good to feel them rest - ing on

B. *f*
sink in-to you and do not hurt. It is good to feel them rest-ing on you

f

It's strange about stars...

22 *f* *mp* 4

T. you like great white birds... great white birds... and their shin-ing white - ness does-n't

T. you like great white birds... great white birds... and their shin-ing white - ness does-n't

B. you like great white birds... great white birds... and their shin-ing white - ness does-n't

B. like great white birds... great white birds... and their shin-ing white - ness does-n't

f *mp*

28 *ff* *sempre ff*

T. burn like the sun— it wash - es ov - er you, it wash - es ov - er

T. burn like the sun— it wash - es ov - er you, it wash - es ov - er you, it

B. burn like the sun— it wash - - es ov - er you, it

B. burn like the sun— it wash - - es ov - er you, it

ff *ff* *ff* *ff*

ff *sempre ff*

34

T. you, it wash - es ov - er you and makes you feel clean - er 'an

T. wash - es ov - er you and makes you feel clean - er 'an

B. wash - es ov - er you and makes you feel clean er 'an

B. wash - es ov - er you and makes you feel clean - er 'an

p *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

39

T. wat - er, clean - er 'an wat - er, clean - er than wat - er.

T. wat - er, clean - er 'an wat - er, clean - er than wat - er.

B. wat - er, clean - er 'an wat - er, clean - er than wat - er.

B. wat - er, clean - er 'an wat - er, clean - er than wat - er.

p *mp*