

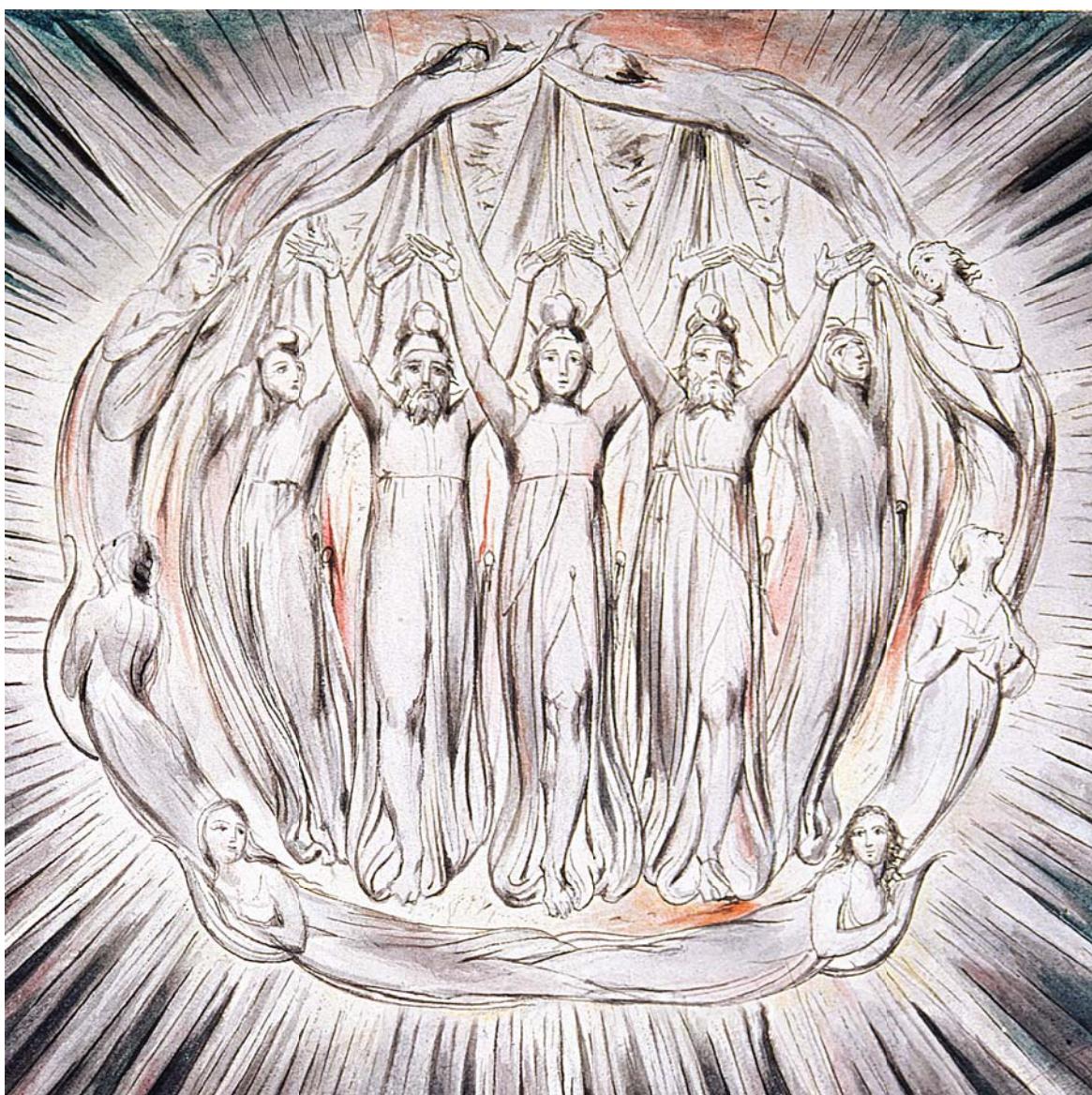
BBC
RADIO



I am the World
SATB chorus
7 min

Music by Melissa Dunphy
Poetry by Dora Sigerson Shorter

2022



*Commissioned by BBC Radio 3
and first performed by the BBC Singers
conducted by Grace Rossiter
on 8 March 2022 at Temple Church, London*

I am the world

SATB chorus

Music by Melissa Dunphy
Poetry by Dora Sigerson Shorter

I am the song, that rests upon the cloud;
I am the sun:
I am the dawn, the day, the hiding shroud,
When dusk is done.

I am the changing colours of the tree;
The flower uncurled:
I am the melancholy of the sea;
I am the world.

The other souls that, passing in their place,
Each in their groove;
Out-stretching hands that chain me and embrace,
Speak and reprove.

"O atom of that law, by which the earth
Is poised and whirled;
Behold! you hurrying with the crowd assert
You are the world."

Am I not one with all the things that be
Warm in the sun?
All that my ears can hear, or eyes can see,
Till all be done.

Of song and shine, of changing leaf apart,
Of bud uncurled:
With all the senses pulsing at my heart,
I am the world.

One day the song that drifts upon the wind,
I shall not hear;
Nor shall the rosy shoots to eyes grown blind
Again appear.

Deaf, in the dark, I shall arise and throw
From off my soul,
The withered world with all its joy and woe,
That was my goal.

I shall arise, and like a shooting star
Slip from my place;
So lingering see the old world from afar
Revolve in space.

And know more things than all the wise may know
Till all be done;
Till One shall come who, breathing on the stars,
Blows out the sun.



Mormolyke
Press

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

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I am the World

Poetry by Dora Sigerson Shorter (1898)

Music by Melissa Dunphy

Allegretto ♩=c.108

The musical score consists of four staves, each representing a vocal part: SOPRANO, ALTO, TENOR, and BASS. The key signature is A major (two sharps). The time signature is common time (indicated by a '4'). The tempo is Allegretto, with a note value of ♩=c.108. The vocal parts sing the lyrics "A - rise," and "I shall a - rise," in a repeating pattern. The soprano and alto parts begin with a piano dynamic (pp), while the tenor and bass parts begin with a forte dynamic (f).

SOPRANO: A - rise, a - rise, a -

ALTO: A - rise, a - rise, a -

TENOR: I shall a - rise, I shall a - rise, I shall a - rise, I shall a - rise,

BASS: I shall a - rise, I shall a - rise, I shall a - rise, I shall a -

The musical score continues from measure 6. The key signature changes to G major (one sharp). The vocal parts sing the lyrics "rise," "a - rise," and "I shall a - rise," in a repeating pattern. The dynamics are marked with "mp" (mezzo-forte) for the piano parts and "f" (forte) for the vocal parts. The bass part begins with a forte dynamic (f) in this section.

S.: rise, a - rise, I

A.: rise, a - rise, I

T.: I shall a - rise, I shall a - rise,

B.: rise, I shall a - rise, I shall a -

11

S. shall a - rise, I shall a -

A. shall a - rise, I shall a -

T. 8 I shall a - rise, I shall a - rise,

B. rise, shall a - rise, I shall a - rise, I shall a - rise, I shall a - rise, shall a -

16

S. rise, I shall a - rise.

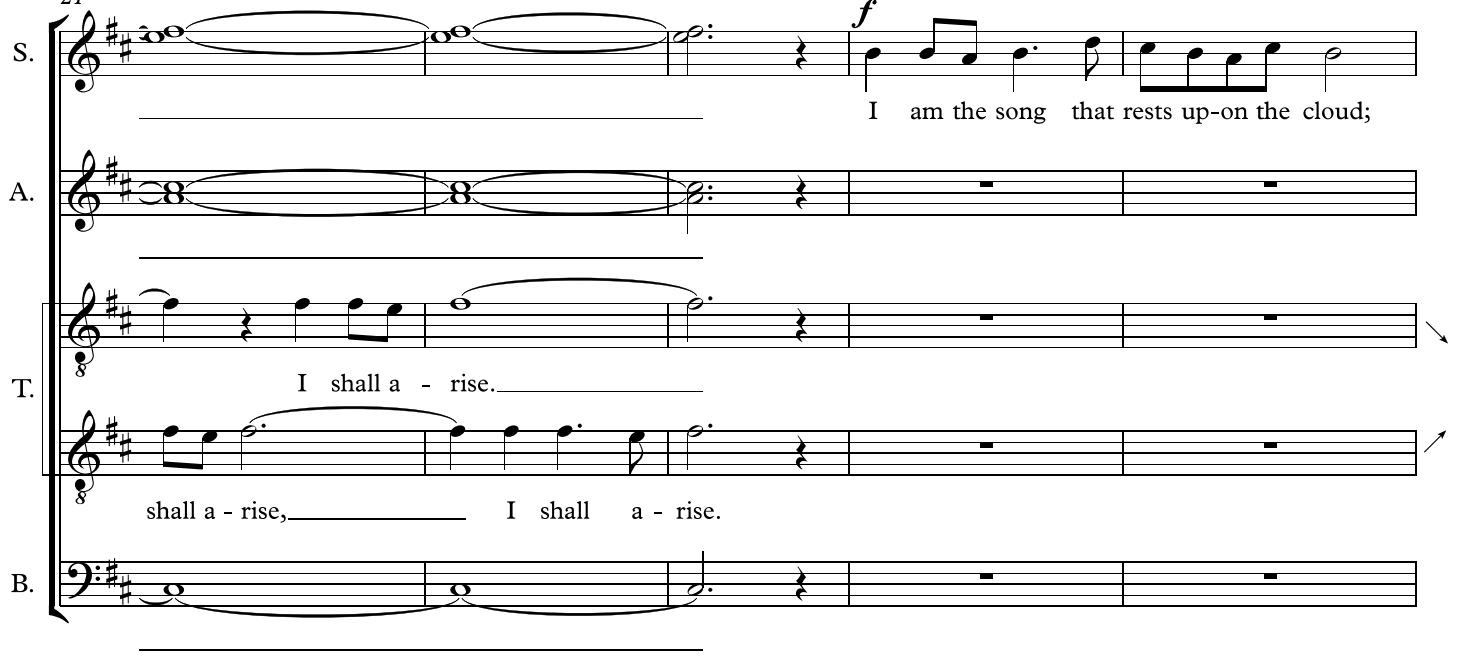
A. rise, I shall a - rise, I shall a - rise.

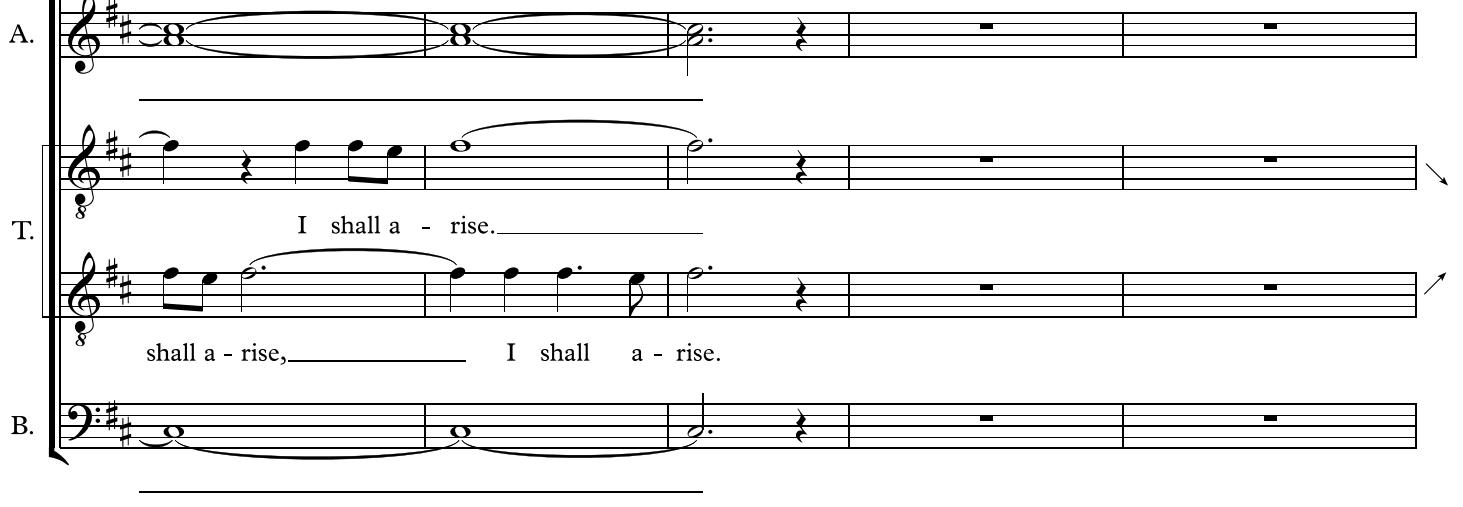
T. 8 I shall a - rise, I shall a - rise,

B. 8 I shall a - rise, I

B. rise, I shall a - rise.

21

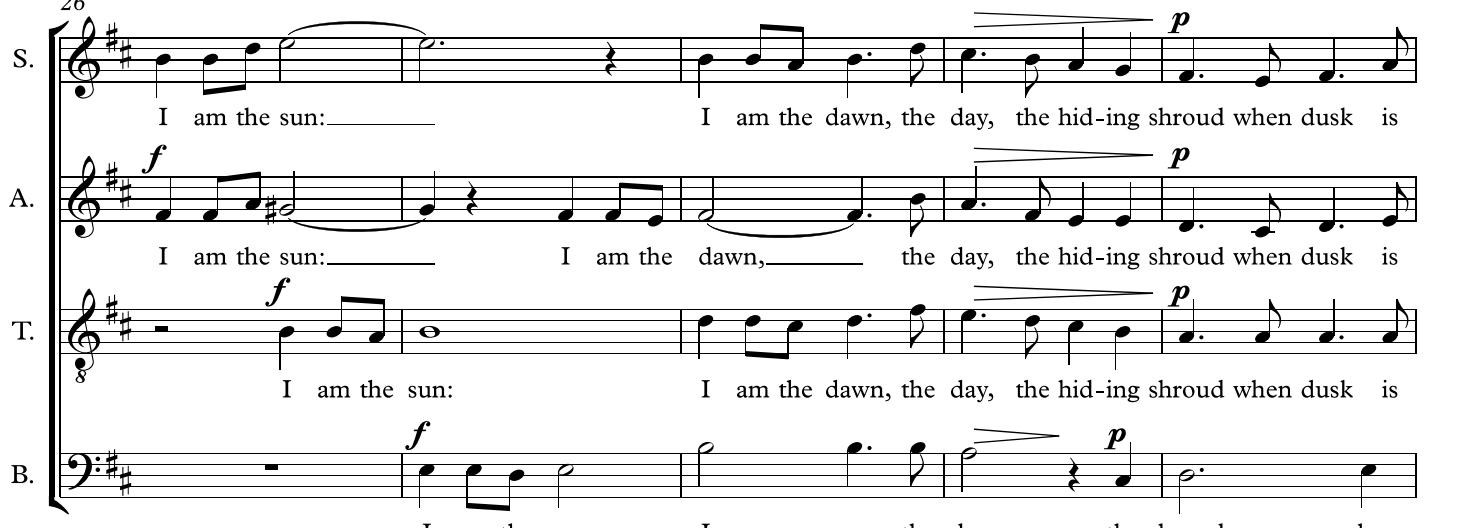
S. 

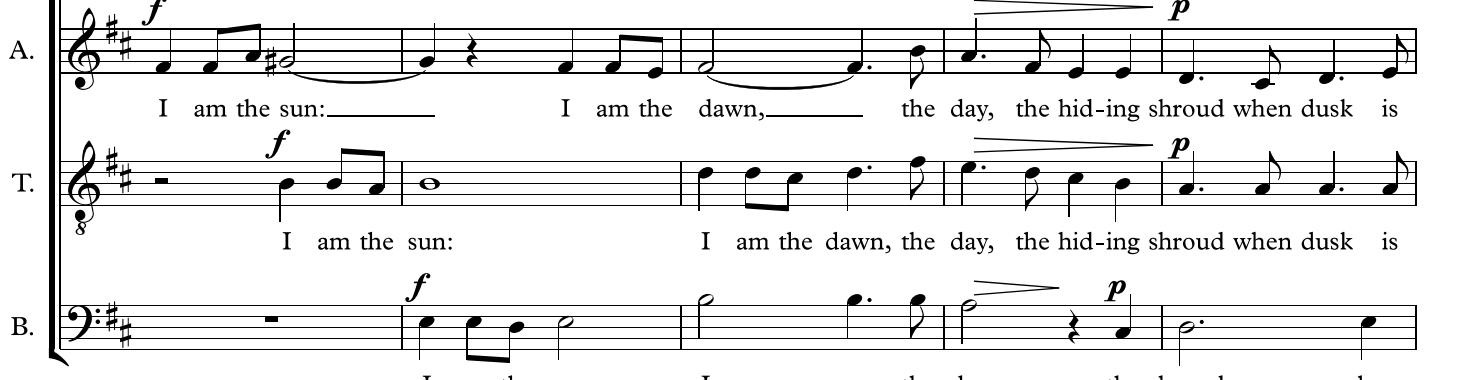
A. 

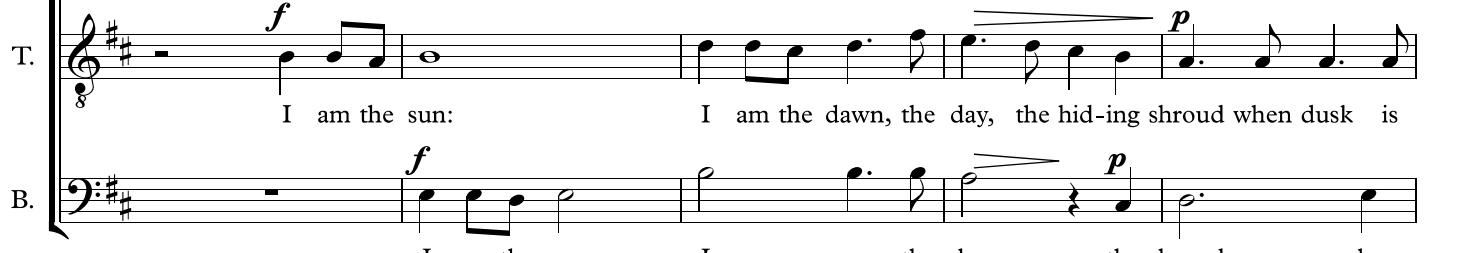
T. 

B. 

26

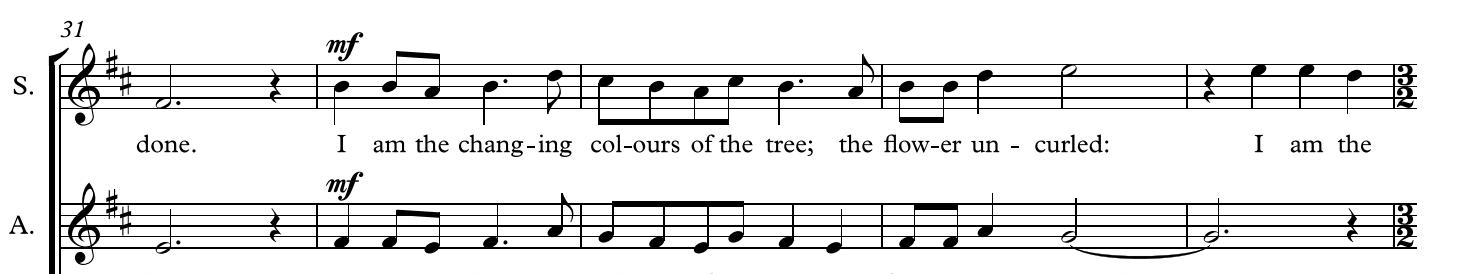
S. 

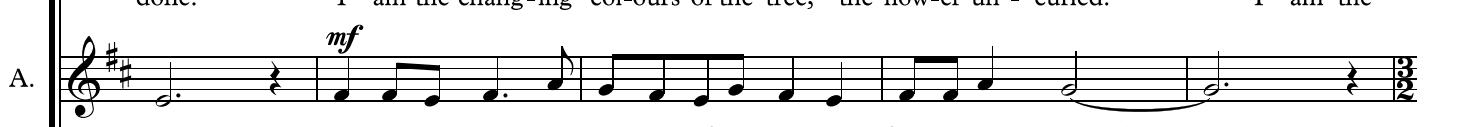
A. 

T. 

B. 

31

S. 

A. 

T. 

B. 

36

S. mel - an - cho-ly of the sea, I am the mel - an - cho-ly of the sea; *mp* *f*

A. I am the mel - an-cho-ly of the sea, the sea; I am the *mp* *f*

T. the mel - an - cho - ly of the sea; I am the *mp*

B. I am the mel - an - cho - ly of the sea; *mp*

40

S. I am the world, I am the world. I am the song that rests up-on the *f*

A. world, I am the world. I am the song that rests up-on the *f*

T. world, I am the world. I am the song that rests up-on the cloud; *f*

B. I am the world. I am the song that rests up-on the cloud; *f*

46

S. cloud; I am the sun: I am the day, the hid-ing shroud when *p*

A. cloud; I am the sun: I am the dawn, the day, the hid-ing shroud when *p*

T. I am the sun: I am the dawn, the day, the hid-ing shroud when dusk is *p*

B. I am the sun: I am the dawn, the day, the hid-ing shroud when dusk is *p*

51

S. *f*
dusk is done. I am the flow - er un - curled:

A. *f*
dusk is done. I am the chang - ing col-ours of the tree; un-curled:

T. *f*
done. I am the chang - ing col-ours of the tree; the flow-er un - curled:

B. *f*
done. I am the chang - ing col-ours of the tree; the flow-er un - curled:

56 *mp*

S. I am the mel - an - cho - ly of the sea;

A. *mp*
I am the mel - an cho-ly of the sea, the mel - an - cho-ly of the sea;

T. *mp*
I am the mel - an-cho-ly of the sea, mel - an - cho-ly of the sea;

B. *mp*
I am the mel - an - cho-ly of the sea;

59 *f*

S. I am the world, the world, I am the world, I am the

A. *f*
I am the world, I am the world, I am the world,

T. *f*
I am the world, I am the world, I am the world,

B. *f*
I am the world, the world, I am the world. I am the

65

S. world, I am the world. The oth-er souls that pass-ing in their place, each in their groove;

A. — I am the world. The oth-er souls that pass-ing in their place, each in their groove;

T. — I am the world. The oth-er souls that pass - ing in their place, each in their

B. world. I am the world. The oth-er souls that pass - ing in their place, each in their

71

S. — out - stretch-ing hands that chain me and em-brace, speak and re-prove. O at-om of that

A. — out - stretch-ing hands that chain me and em - brace, speak and re-prove. O at-om of that

T. — groove; out-stretch-ing hands that chain, em-brace, speak and re-prove. O at-om of that

B. — groove; out-stretch - in hands that chain, em - brace, speak and re - prove. O

77

S. law by which the earth is poised and whirled; Be hold, you hurr-yng with the crowd as-sert

A. law by which the earth is whirled; Be hold! you who as - sert

T. — law by which the earth is poised and whirled; Be hold! you who as - sert

B. law by which the earth is whirled; Be hold! you who as - sert

82

S. *p* > *mp* *p* *mf*
 you are the world. Am I not one? Ah All that my

A. *p* *p*
 you are the world. Ah

T. *p* *mf*
 8 you are the world. Am I not one with all the things that be warm in the sun?

B. *p* *p*
 you are the world. Ah

89

S. ears can hear or eyes can see till all be done. Ah

A. Ah till all be done. Of chang-ing leaf a -

T. Ah Of song and shine, of chang-ing leaf a -

B. All that my eyes can see till all be done. Ah

95

S. *mf* — *mp* *espress.*
of bud uncurled: the sen - ses puls-ing at my heart, at my heart, I am the

A. — *mp* *espress.*
part, sens - es puls-ing at my heart, I am the world.

T. — *mp* *espress.*
part, with all the sen - ses puls-ing at my heart, I am the world,

B. — *mp* *espress.*
sen - ses puls-ing at my heart, I am the

102

S. world, I am the world.

A. I am the world. *p* One day the song I shall not

T. I am the world. *p* One day the song that drifts up-on the wind,

B. world, I am the world. One day the song that drifts up-on the wind, I

109 *p*

S. I shall not hear, I shall not hear; *p*

A. hear, I shall not hear; Nor shall the ros - y shoots

T. I shall not hear; *mp* *p* Nor shall the ros - y shoots to eyes grown

B. shall not hear, I shall not hear; Nor shall the ros - y shoots to eyes grown

116

S. a-gain ap - pear. *mp* Deaf, in the dark I shall a - rise and

A. a-gain ap - pear. Deaf, in the dark I shall a - rise and throw from *mp*

T. a-gain ap - pear. I shall a - rise and throw from *mp*

B. blind a - gain, a-gain ap - pear. I shall a - rise, *mp*

blind a - gain ap - pear, ap - pear. I shall a - rise,

123

S. throw the with-ered world with all its joy and woe. I shall a -

off my soul the with-ered world with all its joy and woe that was my goal. I shall a -

A. off my soul the with-ered world with all its joy and woe that was my goal. I shall a -

T. 8 I shall a - rise, I shall a - rise, I shall a - rise, a - f

B. I shall a - rise, I shall a - rise, I shall a - rise, a -

129 *f*

S. rise and like a shoot-ing star; so ling' - ring see the old world from a - far

A. *f* rise and like a shoot-ing star slip from my place; so ling' - ring see the old world from a - far

T. *f* rise like a star; *p* re -

B. *f* rise like a star;

136

S. re - volve in space, re - volve in space.

A. re - volve in space, re - volve in space.

T. 8 volve in space.

B. re - volve in space.

141

S. - - - - - *mf*
A. - - - - - *mf* slip from my place;
T. I shall a-rise and like a shoot-ing star slip from my place, slip from my place;
B. *mf* I shall a-rise and like a shoot-ing star slip from my place; so ling' ring

145

S. so ling' ring see the old world from a - far re-volve in space. And know more things than *f*
A. so ling' ring see the old world from a - far re-volve in space. And know _____
T. so ling' ring see the old world from a - far re-volve in space. And know more things than *f*
B. see the old world from a - far re-volve in space and know _____

150

S. all the wise may know till all be done; till One shall come who breath-ing on the stars,
A. till all be done; till One shall come who breath-ing on the stars,
T. all the wise may know till all, till all be done; till One shall come who breath-ing on the stars,
B. till all be done; till One shall come who breath-ing on the stars,

156 **Piu mosso** ♩=c.120

S.

A. *p*
blows out the sun.

T. *p*
I shall a - rise, I shall a - rise, I shall a - rise, I am the

B. *p*
I shall a-rise, I shall a-rise, I shall a-rise, I shall a-rise,

161 *f*

S. I am the song that rests up-on the cloud; I am the sun; I am the dawn, the

A. *f*
I am the song that rests up-on the cloud; I am the sun; I am the dawn, the

T. *f*
song _____ that rests up-on the cloud; I, I am the dawn, the

B. *f*
I am the song that rests up-on the cloud; I, I am the dawn, the

165 *mp* *f*

S. day, the shroud when dusk is done. I am the chang-ing col-ours of the tree; the

A. *mp* *f*
day, the shroud when dusk is done. I am the chang-ing col-ours of the tree; the

T. *f*
day, I am the chang - ing col-ours of the tree;

B. *f*
day, I am the chang - ing col - ours of the

169

S. flow-er un - curled: I am the mel - an-cho-ly of the sea;

A. flow-er un - curled: I am the mel - an-cho-ly of the sea;

T. 8 the flow-er un - curled: I am the mel - an-cho-ly of the sea;

B. tree, the flow-er un-curled: I am the mel - an-cho - ly of the sea;

172

S. — I am the world, I am the world,

A. — I am the world, I am the world, I am the

T. 8 — I am the world, I am the world, I am the

B. — I am the world, the world, I am the world,

177

S. I am the world, I am the world, the world.

A. world, I am the world, the world.

T. 8 world, I am the world, the world.

B. I am the world, the world, I am the world.