

Three Little Songs

Op. 65

The Want of You (Angela Weld Grimké)
Nocturne (Alfred Kreyborg)
Summer Stars (Carl Sandburg)

Andrew Ardizzoia
2023

I write little pieces (solo piano, art songs, etc.) when I'm between larger projects, or when I need a break. I find them a good way to give myself a quick creative "win" and to reconnect with the spontaneity and sense of fun that I value in my creative work. This is a collection of minute vocal works that fall into this category. I wrote the first and last songs in this set in 2020, and the Sandburg in 2023.

The Want of You (Angelina Weld Grimké)

A hint of gold where the moon will be;
Through the flocking clouds just a star or two;
Leaf sounds, soft and wet and hushed,
And oh! the crying want of you.

Summer Stars (Carl Sandburg)

Bend low again, night of summer stars.
So near you are, sky of summer stars,
So near, a long-arm man can pick off stars,
Pick off what he wants in the sky bowl,
So near you are, summer stars,
So near, strumming, strumming,
So lazy and hum-strumming.

Nocturne (Alfred Kreymborg)

The pantaloons are dancing,
dancing, through the night,
pure white pantaloons,
underneath the moon,
on a jolly wash line,
skipping from my room,
over to Miranda,
who washed them this noon.

The Want of You

Angelina Weld Grimké
(1880-1958)

Andrew Ardizzoia
(b. 1979)

Slow, languid, aching (♩ = ca. 50-60)

The first system of the musical score is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a whole rest, followed by a quarter rest, and then a half note G4. The piano accompaniment starts with a half note G3 in the bass and a half note G4 in the treble, with a piano (*p*) dynamic marking. The lyrics "A hint of" are positioned below the vocal line.

The second system of the musical score continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, and a quarter note C5. The piano accompaniment continues with a similar texture. The lyrics "gold where the moon will be; Through the" are positioned below the vocal line.

The third system of the musical score continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line has a quarter note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F5, and a quarter note G5. The piano accompaniment continues with a similar texture. The lyrics "flo - cking clouds just a star or two;" are positioned below the vocal line. The system includes performance markings: *più (rubato)* and *Rallentando* above the vocal line, and *più (colla voce)* above the piano accompaniment. The system ends with a 6/4 time signature change.

10 **(Rall.)** **A tempo** *p*

Leaf sounds, soft and

13 *pp* **Più lento**

wet and hushed, And oh! the cry - ing

16 **Morendo**

want of you.

ppp

Nocturne

Alfred Kreyborg
(1883-1966)

Breezy, whimsical (♩ = 72-76)

p sempre leggiero

una corda

2

mp sempre legato
(with disbelief and awe)

4

The

p (quasi echo)

5

5

pan - ta - loons are dan - cing, _____

7

dan - cing, in the night, pure _____ white

9

pan - ta - loons _____ un - der - neath the moon,

11

on a jol-ly wash line, ___

13

skip-ping from my room, ___ o - ver to Mi - ran - da, ___

f

tre corde

15

poco meno

who washed them this noon.

f

non rall.

8va

(*g^{va}*)

p

3 3 3

3 3 3

Carl Sandburg
(1878-1967)

Summer Stars

Poco lento, non troppo *p*

sempre ten.
pp
(arpeggiato sim. throughout)

Bend low a - gain, night of sum-mer stars.

5 So near you are, sky of sum-mer stars,

9 stars, So near, a long-arm man can pick off stars,

(poco)

13 *f* **Rall.** **A tempo** *p*

Pick off what he wants in the sky bowl, _____ So

17

near you are, sum-mer stars So near, strum-ming, strum-ming,

21 **Molto ten.** **A tempo, meno mosso**

So la - zy and hum - strum-ming, _____