

BATTLE ABOVE THE CLOUDS

Two-Part Treble Voices with Piano and Optional Violin

Vicki Tucker Courtney

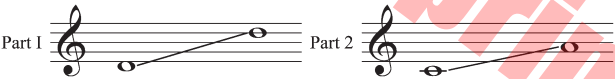
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Range:



Language: English
Use: General/Festival
Time: Approx. 2:52
*Difficulty: Moderate

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Note from the Composer

In 1855 halfway up Lookout Mountain, south of Chattanooga, Tennessee, Robert Cravens built himself a home on a small outcrop of level land. Because Craven's house could be seen from the Bluff Furnace along the Tennessee River, both the Union and the Confederate armies used his house as an observation post and headquarters during the Civil War. On November 24, 1863, the heaviest fighting occurred during the Battle Above the Clouds on that very plateau where the house was built. 10,000 Union men captured the house but were quickly stopped by 1,200 Confederates under the command of Major General Carter Stevenson. The house only suffered minor damage during the battle only to be destroyed later by Union soldiers. Craven rebuilt the house after the war. It is now a part of the Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park and is open for visitation.

Much attention to diction is required so that your listening audience is able to understand the story. I hope you enjoy telling the history of this battle while learning and performing this song.

About the Composer

Vicki Tucker Courtney's classical piano background began at the age of four. Her extensive studies and choral accompanying while at North Texas State University led to a career that now includes composition and arranging for choirs, piano, handbells, and solo voice.

A multiple recipient of the annual ASCAP Plus Awards, Vicki currently writes full time, plays weekly traditional and contemporary church services, and tutors students of all ages in the study of the piano. She was mentored by Dove Award winning Mark Hayes in 2002 and published her first piece in 2004. Vicki currently has over 250 works in publication. Visit her website at www.vickituckercourtney.com.

Battle above the Clouds

for Two-part Treble Voices with Piano*
and Optional Violin**

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JOHN PARKER

VICKI TUCKER COURTNEY

Tempo I
A folk dance ♩ = 92

Part 1

Part 2

Violin

f

Tempo I
A folk dance ♩ = 92

Piano

f

gliss.

4

mp

The Ma - ple tree could show no leaf, the

mp

The Ma - ple tree could show no leaf, the

mp

* Also available for TB Voices (BL754).

** The part for Optional Violin appears on pp. 15–16.

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Pop-lar, too, was bare. The Ash looked on in dis - be - lief as fog de-scend-ed there. Twelve

Pop-lar, too, was bare. The Ash looked on in dis - be - lief as fog de-scend-ed there. Twelve

mf

mf

mf

thou - sand un - ion sol - diers climbed the hills of Ten - nes - see, that

thou - sand un - ion sol - diers climbed the hills of Ten - nes - see, that

11

day on Look - out Moun - tain in eigh - teen six - ty

day on Look - out Moun - tain in eigh - teen six - ty

13

three. _____ O Cra - ven's house, *f*

three. _____ O Cra - ven's house, *f*

mf *f*

f

This block contains measures 13 through 15 of a musical score. It features two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts have a long note in measure 13, followed by a rest and then the lyrics 'O Cra - ven's house,' in measure 14. The piano accompaniment includes a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. Dynamics include *mf* and *f*. A large red watermark is visible across the page.

16

what did you see on that cold No - vem - ber day, a -

what did you see on that cold No - vem - ber day, a -

This block contains measures 16 through 18 of the musical score. The vocal parts continue with the lyrics 'what did you see on that cold No - vem - ber day, a -'. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and a steady bass line. Dynamics are not explicitly marked in this section.

18

bove the clouds in Ten - nes - see, _____ as

bove the clouds in Ten - nes - see, _____ as

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The musical score for measures 18 and 19 features two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal staves are in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are "bove the clouds in Ten - nes - see, _____ as". The piano accompaniment consists of a right hand with chords and a left hand with a simple bass line.

20

can - nons fired a - way. _____ *mf* When

can - nons fired a - way. _____ *mf* When

The musical score for measures 20 and 21 continues the vocal and piano parts. The vocal staves have the lyrics "can - nons fired a - way. _____ *mf* When". The piano accompaniment includes a right hand with chords and a left hand with a bass line. A large red watermark "For promotional use only" and "Unlawful to copy or print" is overlaid on the score.

23

“Fight - ing Joe” came ‘cross the creek, the reb - els met him there. But

“Fight - ing Joe” came ‘cross the creek, the reb - els met him there. But

mf

25

soon the view was look - ing bleak, so back they fell from there. A -

soon the view was look - ing bleak, so back they fell from there. A -

27

gainst the climbs, near Cra - ven's house the — fight - ing was in - tense. Twelve

gainst the climbs, near Cra - ven's house the — fight - ing was in - tense. Twelve

29

thou - sand 'gainst twelve hun - dred men the bat - tle did com -

thou - sand 'gainst twelve hun - dred men the bat - tle did com -



31

mence. _____ O Cra - ven's house, *f*

mence. _____ O Cra - ven's house, *f*



rit.

can - nons fired a - way.

can - nons fired a - way.

*rit.**mp* **Freely** ♩ = 60

The morn - ing fog in si - lence lay like

mp

The morn - ing fog in si - lence lay like

Freely ♩ = 60*mp*

43

ghosts up - on the field, once hid - ing what was lost that day the

ghosts up - on the field, once hid - ing what was lost that day the

mp

This block contains the musical notation for measures 43 and 44. It features two vocal staves with lyrics, a piano accompaniment staff with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic marking, and a grand piano section with treble and bass staves. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

45

sun has since re - vealed. Twelve hun - dred sol - diers lost their lives near -

sun has since re - vealed. Twelve hun - dred sol - diers lost their lives near -

This block contains the musical notation for measures 45 and 46. It features two vocal staves with lyrics, a piano accompaniment staff, and a grand piano section with treble and bass staves. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

poco un poco cresc. ed accel.

Look - out's jag - ged dome, to can - non slugs and mus - ket knives near

Look - out's jag - ged dome, to can - non slugs and mus - ket knives near

poco un poco cresc. ed accel.

Tempo I ♩ = 92

Ro - bert Cra - ven's home. _____ *f* O

Ro - bert Cra - ven's home. _____ *f* O

mf

Tempo I ♩ = 92

52

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Cra - ven's house, what did you see on that

Cra - ven's house, what did you see on that

f

f

54

cold No-ven - ber day, a - bove the clouds in Ten - nes - see, —

cold No-ven - ber day, a - bove the clouds in Ten - nes - see, —

f

56

as can - nons fired a - way. *mf*

as can - nons fired a - way. *mf*

mf

mf

This block contains measures 56, 57, and 58 of a musical score. Measures 56 and 57 feature vocal staves with the lyrics "as can - nons fired a - way." and a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic marking. Measure 58 features a piano staff with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic marking. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

59

rit.

rit.

rit.

This block contains measures 59, 60, 61, and 62 of a musical score. Measures 59 and 60 feature vocal staves with a *rit.* (ritardando) marking. Measures 61 and 62 feature piano staves with a *rit.* marking. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

Battle above the Clouds

for Two-part Treble Voices with Piano
and Optional Violin

JOHN PARKER

VICKI TUCKER COURTNEY

Tempo I
A folk dance ♩ = 92

The musical score is written for a Violin in 4/4 time, marked 'Tempo I' and 'A folk dance' with a tempo of 92 beats per minute. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score consists of eight staves of music, with measure numbers 4, 7, 16, 19, 22, 25, and 34 indicated at the beginning of their respective staves. The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Dynamics include *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *gliss.* (glissando). A large, diagonal watermark reading 'For Promotional Use Only' is overlaid across the center of the page.

