

There Will Come Soft Rains / Farnell / 2-pt Treble with Kbd

There Will Come Soft Rains

Music by

LAURA FARNELL

Lyrics by

SARA TEASDALE

Two-Part Treble Voices with Keyboard

Ranges:



CARL FISCHER®

About the Lyricist

Sara Teasdale (1884–1933) was born in St. Louis, Missouri. She achieved recognition during her lifetime for her sensitive writing. Although the popularity of her work declined considerably in the second half of the twentieth century, it has received renewed interest in recent years. Love was the central theme in much of Teasdale's poetry. She wrote of her emotions and her emotional response to the world and people around her.

In 1918, Teasdale won the Columbia University Poetry Society prize (which later became the Pulitzer Prize for poetry) for *Love Songs*. "There Will Come Soft Rains" is a poem from her collection *Flame and Shadow* published in 1920, and this poem may have been written in response to Teasdale's disillusionment with the First World War. Other volumes of her poetry published during her lifetime include *Dark of the Moon* (1920) and *Stars Tonight* (1930). Her final collection, *Strange Victory*, was published posthumously, just a year after her death.

Performance Notes

Sara Teasdale's poetry is simple, but powerful, and I have loved this particular poem ever since I first read it in a high-school literature class. Coming to terms with the various facets of war is as difficult today as it was at the beginning of the twentieth century when this poem was written. However, to me, reading Teasdale's version of nature's perspective on war brings a certain comfort in its focus on the new beginning that comes at war's end. In this setting, the sixteenth note "rain motive" and repetitive vocal lines ("And it will rain") permeate the piece and attempt to depict a gentle spring rain shower, which is the impetus for new life described in the text.

About the Composer

Laura Farnell is currently the head choral director at Boles Junior High in Arlington, Texas, where she has taught since 2000. Under her direction the program has grown to more than 270 7th and 8th grade students in the choral program. In 2004 she received an Excellence in Education Award as the Arlington Independent School District's outstanding junior high teacher of the year.

After graduating summa cum laude from Baylor University with her Bachelor of Music Education in Choral Music (with a piano emphasis), Laura taught elementary music in Mansfield, Texas for two years. Laura is an active member of the Texas Music Educators Association and the Texas Choral Directors Association. Laura is active as an accompanist and clinician. She especially enjoys composing and arranging for middle school groups, and is represented by several publishers. She and her husband, Russell, are currently members of Broadway Baptist church in Fort Worth and reside in Arlington, Texas.

There Will Come Soft Rains

for Two-part Treble Voices with Keyboard

Sara Teasdale, alt.

LAURA FARNELL

$\text{♩} = \text{c. } 88$

Keyboard

p legato and rubato

mp

3

Part I

(optional Part I only) *mp*

There will

Part II

(optional Part I only) *mp*

There will

mp

5

come soft rains and the smell of the ground,

come soft rains and the smell of the ground,

f

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8 (optional Part II only) *mp*

And swal - lows cir - cling with their shim - mer - ing

(optional Part II only) *mp*

And swal - lows cir - cling with their shim - mer - ing

11

sound; And not one will know of the

unis. (both Parts I and II)

sound; And not one will know of the

unis. (both Parts I and II)

14

war, not_ one will_ care when it is done. And not

mf

war, not_ one will_ care when it is done. And not

mf

17

one would mind, nei-ther bird nor tree If— man - kind per - ished

20

ut - ter - ly; And— Spring her - self when she

22

woke at dawn, Would scarce - ly know we were

24

poco rit. *a tempo* *mp*

gone, and it will rain, and it will

gone, and it will rain, and it will

poco rit. *a tempo* *p* *mp*

gone, and it will rain, and it will

gone, and it will rain, and it will

poco rit. *a tempo* *p* *mp*

26

p

rain, and it will

rain, and it will

p

rain, and it will

rain, and it will

p

28

rain.

rain.

pp *p*

rain.

rain.

pp *p*

30

mf

Rob - ins will wear their_ feath - 'ry_

mp

33

mp

Rob - ins will wear their_ feath - 'ry_ fire,
fire, Whis - tling their

36

mf

whis - tling, whis - tling. And_
whims on a low fence - wire; And_

39

frogs will sing their songs at night, and trees will dress in

frogs will sing their songs at night, and trees will dress in

mf

42

white. And not one would mind, nei - ther

white. And not one would mind, nei - ther

f

44

bird nor tree If man - kind per - ished ut - ter - ly: And

bird nor tree If man - kind per - ished ut - ter - ly: And

47

Spring her-self when she woke at dawn, Would scarce - ly know we were

Spring her - self when she woke at dawn, Would scarce - ly know we were

50

poco rit. gone, and it will rain, and it will *mf*

poco rit. gone, and it will rain, and it will *mf*

poco rit. *a tempo* *mp* *mf*

52

rain, and it will *mp*

rain, and it will *mp*

54

rain.

rain.

p

mp

56

p

Not one will

mp

And not one will know of the war, not one will_

mp

59

know, not one will care,

care at last when_ it is done. And it will

mp

62

and it will rain. And it will
rain, it will rain. And it will

rit.
mp

rit.
mp

rit.

65

rain, And it will rain, rain,
rain, And it will rain,

a tempo, but slowing gradually to the end *decresc. to end*
a tempo, but slowing gradually to the end *decresc. to end*

p
mp

67

it will rain.
it will rain.

p

Choral

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ISBN 0-8258-6616-2

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