

DREAMS

Words by LANGSTON HUGHES (1902-1967)

Music by AUDREY SNYDER



* Hold fast to dreams
For if dreams die
Life is a broken-winged bird
That cannot fly.

Hold fast to dreams
For when dreams go
Life is a barren field
Frozen with snow.

Langston Hughes, American poet, novelist, editor and playwright, made his indelible mark on American literature for nearly fifty years. The focus of the majority of his works is the experience of the black man in America, his sorrows, joys, hopes and dreams. Many of his works reflect great sadness for oppression yet coupled with optimism for the future. DREAMS is from a collection of poems entitled *THE DREAM KEEPER and Other Poems*, first published in 1932.

The simple imagery and eloquence of this poem provides a wide variety of optional educational activities using the visual arts, creative movement and discussion.

Performance suggestion: This piece is ideally performed very legato, with little or no vibrato, and with careful attention given to the shaping of phrases and clarity of tone.

Audrey Snyder

* From *THE DREAM KEEPER AND OTHER POEMS* by Langston Hughes.

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Commissioned by The Louisville Youth Choir, Carol Christell, Music Director

DREAMS

Two-Part, accompanied

Words by LANGSTON HUGHES*
Music by AUDREY SNYDER

Legato, not in strict tempo (♩ = ca. 58)

Piano

mp

Red.

mp

Hold fast to dreams, Hold fast to

mp

Hold fast to dreams,

mf

Ped. sim. throughout

mf

dreams, Hold fast to dreams for if dreams die,

mf

Hold fast to dreams for if dreams die,

mf

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mp
slight rit. 11 *a tempo*

Life is a bro-ken-winged bird that can - not fly.

mp
slight rit. *a tempo*

Life is a bro-ken-winged bird that can - not fly.

11 *mp*
slight rit. *a tempo*

Hold fast to dreams,

Hold fast to dreams,

mf
15 *mf*

Hold fast to dreams for when dreams go, Life is a bar-ren field.

Hold fast to dreams for when dreams go, Life is a bar-ren field.

15 *mf*

rit. *mp* *mf* *a tempo* rit. *p*
 fro - zen with snow, Life is a bar-ren field fro - zen with snow.
 rit. *mp* *mf* *a tempo* rit. *p*
 fro - zen with snow, Life is a bar-ren field fro - zen with snow.
 [19] *mp* *a tempo* rit. *p*
a tempo [23] *mp*
 Hold fast to
a tempo
 8va- [23] *mp*
a tempo *mp*
 Ped. sim.
 dreams, *mp* Hold fast to dreams,
 Hold fast to dreams, Hold fast to

Hold fast to dreams, Hold fast to dreams for
 dreams, Hold fast to dreams for

when dreams go, Life is a bar-ren field when dreams go,
 when dreams go, Life is a bar-ren field, life is a bro-ken-winged

Life is a bar-ren field fro - zen with snow.
 bird, a bar-ren field fro - zen with snow.

rit. *p* a tempo
mf rit. *p* a tempo
 rit. *p* *mp* a tempo

36 *mp*

— Hold fast to dreams,

mp

— Hold fast to

36 *Ped. sim.*

rit. *molto rit.* *p*

Hold fast to dreams.

rit. *molto rit.* *p*

dreams, Hold fast to dreams.

gva *rit. e decresc.* *molto rit.* *p*

Red.

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