Gwyneth Walker

The Promised Land

Songs of the "Next Life" for Soprano with piano accompaniment

Every Night When the Sun Goes Down The Morning Train All My Trials Walk on up to Heaven

Preliminary Program Notes

The Promised Land is a set of arrangements and adaptations of traditional American songs (spirituals). The common element is the yearning for, or celebration of, the life beyond death – the "next life." The songs express a variety of emotions, ranging from the sorrow of leaving this world, to the release from a life of suffering, and finally, to the joy of walking up to Heaven.

These songs were selected because of their contrasting character yet similar message. For, this project has two stages – songs with piano accompaniment, and then songs with full orchestral accompaniment. Having a range of styles and textures offers the most potential for colorful pianistic and orchestral writing.

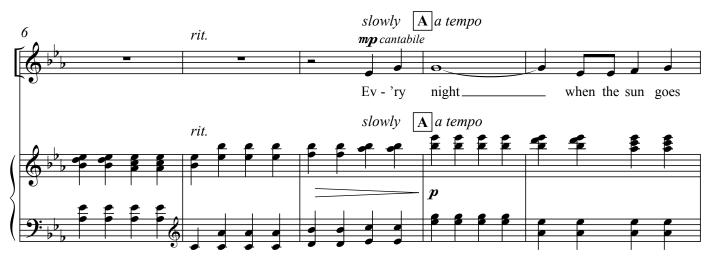
The Promised Land

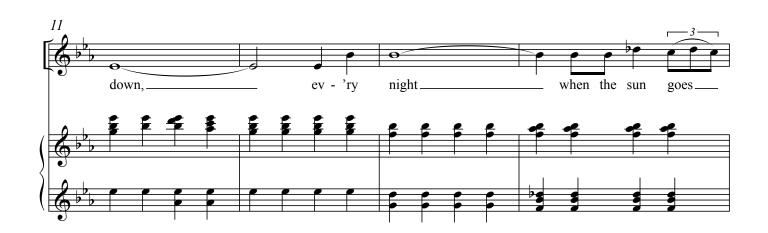
for Soprano and Piano

Traditional Gwyneth Walker

1. Every Night When the Sun Goes Down











The Promised Land: 1. Every Night When the Sun Goes Down



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2. The Morning Train



^{*}The pianist may substitute white-note glissandi if it is more comfortable throughout this song.

Teo.

Ted.

The Promised Land: 2. The Morning Train

Teo





The Promised Land: 2. The Morning Train





The Promised Land: 2. The Morning Train





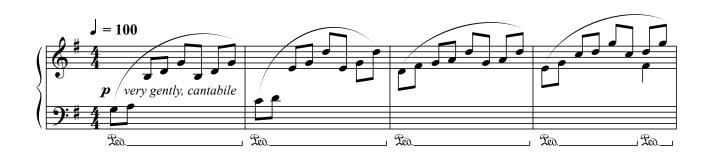


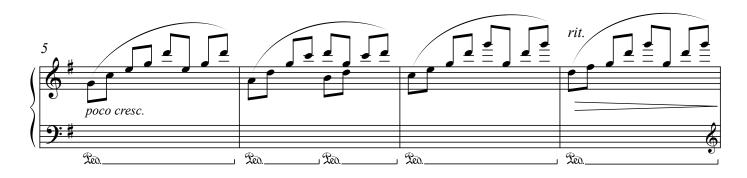


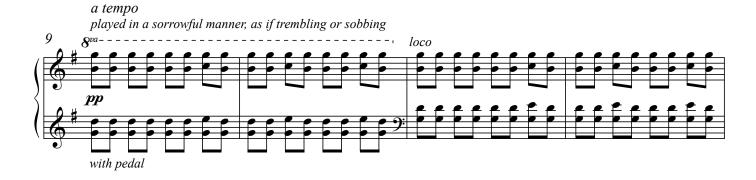


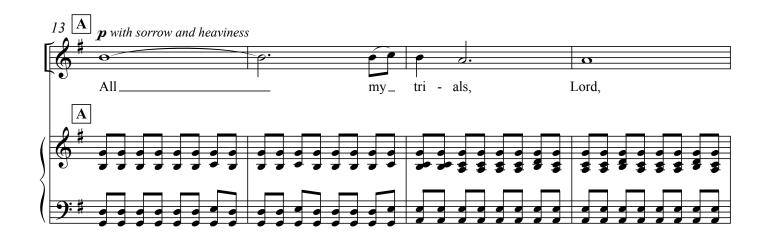


3. All My Trials



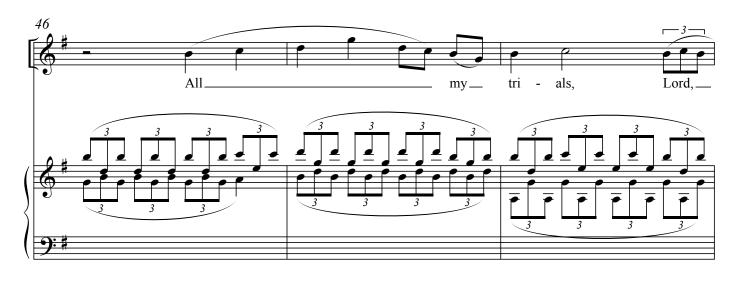


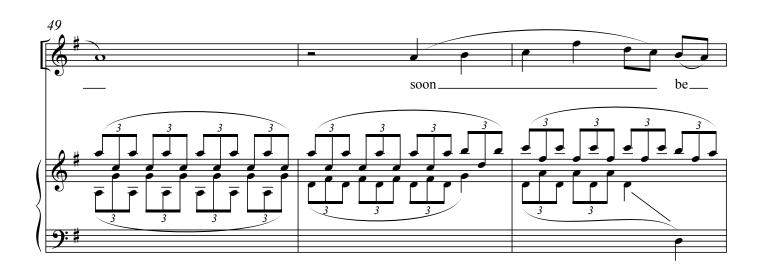




















The Promised Land: 3. All My Trials





4. Walk On Up to Heaven



The Promised Land: 4. Walk On Up to Heaven





The Promised Land: 4. Walk On Up to Heaven





The Promised Land: 4. Walk On Up to Heaven



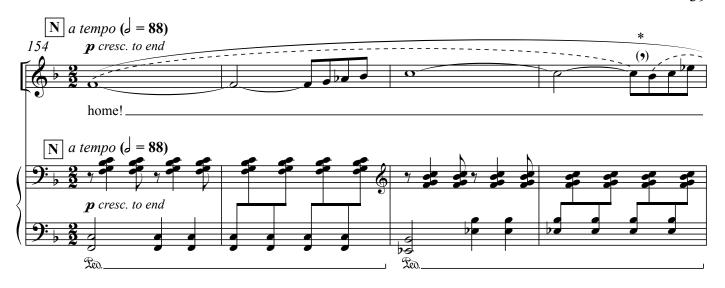


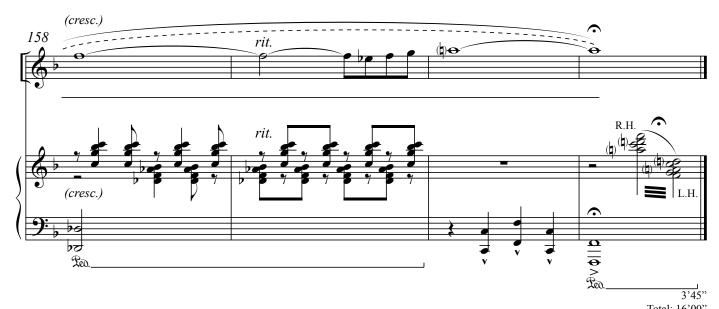
The Promised Land: 4. Walk On Up to Heaven





The Promised Land: 4. Walk On Up to Heaven





3'45"
Total: 16'00"
June 16, 2009
Braintree, Vermont
revised October 16, 2009