

Night Song

Ken Johnston

for unaccompanied SATB voices

Text based on a poem by the New Zealand poet, A. R. D. Fairburn
and used with the kind permission of his daughters, Dinah Holman and Janis Fairburn

Composed February 2003

Duration of piece: 1' 45"

This piece can be performed on its own or as part of a suite of three songs to words by A.R.D. Fairburn,
composed by Ken Johnston.

The other two pieces are:

Poem: for unaccompanied SATB (with divisions), duration 6'.

A Farewell: for unaccompanied SATB, duration 3' 30".

The order of pieces in this suite is: *Night Song* – *Poem* – *A Farewell* (total duration approx 12').

Each of these pieces can be performed effectively on its own, with one other, or as part of the whole suite.

Night Song

for unaccompanied SATB voices

Poem - A. R. D. Fairburn (1904 - 1957)

Music - Ken Johnston

Always gentle and quiet ♩ = 60

Soprano (S): *pp* mm. Though Time's black moun-tain

Alto (A): *pp* mm.

Tenor (T): *pp* mm.

Bass (B): *pp* mm. oo.

6

o-ver-hangs the night where she's en-grossed in sleep its sha-dow can-not bruise my

10

poco cresc. *p* love, so calm she lies, she dreams so deep. She is not hurt by

poco cresc. *p* ah

14

what shall be, death stands en-chant-ed in her eyes; re-mote and love-ly, a

Duration: 1' 45"

18 *poco cresc.* *mp*
float - ing flower on the li - ly pool of sleep she lies. Dream deep, my love, as
poco cresc. *mp*
Dream deep,

22
in the time when your sweet spi - rit was un - born, but rise up when the east is
my love, dream deep

26 *p* *rit.* *dim.*
pur - ple and dress your hair for Judge - ment morn.
p *dim.*
oo

29 *A tempo* *pp* *poco rit.*
mm
pp
mm