

Commissioned by Choir of the West and Richard Nance, Conductor  
Pacific Lutheran University

# NORTHERN LIGHTS

Latvian folksong; and texts by  
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Fridtjof NANSEN

Ēriks Ešņvalds  
(\*1977)

**Con calma** ♩ = 60

*mp*

Solo

Cik nak - snī - nas pret zie - me - li re - dzēj' kā - vus ka - ro - jam,

Chimes

W.-tuned glasses

S *p* Mm

A *p* *legato* Mm

T *p* *legato* Mm

B *p* *legato* Mm

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7

Solo *mf*

È, re - dzěj' kã - vus ka - ro - jam;

W.-tuned glasses

*mp* Oo *mp* Oo *simile*

S *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* It was night, and I had

A *mp* *mp* *mp* *simile*

Oo Oo

T *mp* *mp* *mp* *simile*

Oo Oo

B *mp* *mp* *mp* *simile*

Oo Oo

13

Solo *mp*

Ka - ro

W.-tuned glasses

Oo Oo Oo

S gone on deck sev - er - al times. Ice - berg was si - lent; I too was si - lent.

A Oo Oo Oo

T Oo Oo Oo

B Oo Oo Oo

19

Solo

kā - vi pie de - be - su, ve - dīs ka - rus mūs' ze - mē; Ē, ve - dīs ka - rus mūs' ze -

*mf*

S

*p* Mm Oh *mp*

A

*p legato* Mm Oh *mp*

T

*p legato* Mm Oh *mp*

B

*p legato* Mm Oh *mp*

25

Solo

mē.

W.-tuned glasses

*mp*

S

Oo *mp* Oo *simile* Oo

It was true dark and cold. At nine o' - clock I was be - low in my

A

Oo *mp* Oo *simile* Oo

T

Oo *mp* Oo *simile* Oo

B

Oo *mp* Oo *simile* Oo

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poco agitato e stringendo

30

W.-tuned glasses

*cresc. poco a poco* with the words:

S cab-in, when the cap - tain hailed me with the words: "Come a - bove, Hall, come a - bove at

A when the cap - tain hailed me with the words: "Come a - bove, Hall, come a - bove at

T Oo "Come a - bove, come a - bove, Hall, come a - bove at

B Oo "Come a - bove, come a - bove, Hall, come a - bove at



(allarg. ad lib.) rit.

34

S once, Hall! The world, the world is on fire, on fire!" *ff* *mf*

A once, Hall! The world, the world is on fire, on fire!" *ff* *mf*

T once, Hall! The world, the world is on fire, on fire!" *ff* *mf*

B once, Hall! The world, the world is on fire, on fire!" *ff* *mf*

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39 *p* *cresc. poco a poco*

S I knew his mean - ing, and, quick as thought, I rushed to the com - pan - ion stairs. In a

A I knew his mean - ing, and, quick as thought, I rushed to the com - pan - ion stairs. In a

T I knew his mean - ing, and, quick as thought, I rushed to the com - pan - ion stairs. In a

B I knew his mean - ing, and, quick as thought, I rushed to the com - pan - ion stairs. In a



**meno mosso**

43 *f*

S mo - ment I reached the deck, and as the cab - in door swung o - pen, a

A mo - ment I reached the deck, and as the cab - in door swung o - pen, swung o - pen, a

T mo - ment I reached the deck, and as the cab - in door swung o - pen, a

B mo - ment I reached the deck, and as the cab - in door swung o - pen, swung o - pen, a

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6

**piú mosso****poco allarg.**

48 *mp* *cresc. poco a poco* *fff*

S  
daz - zling light, o - ver - pow'r - ing light burst up - on my star - tled sens - es!

A  
*mp* *cresc. poco a poco* *fff*  
daz - zling light, o - ver - pow'r - ing light burst up - on my star - tled sens - es!

T  
*mp* *cresc. poco a poco* *fff*  
daz - zling light, o - ver - pow'r - ing light burst up - on my star - tled sens - es!

B  
*mp* *cresc. poco a poco* *fff*  
Oh my star - tled sens - es!

**Estático, flessibile** ♩. = 69-76

53 *f* *ff* *dim. poco a poco*

S  
Oh, the whole sky was one glow - ing mass of

A  
*f* *ff* *dim. poco a poco*  
Oh, the whole sky was one glow - ing, glow - ing mass of

T  
*f* *ff* *dim. poco a poco*  
Oh, the whole sky was one glow - ing mass of

B  
*f* *ff* *dim. poco a poco* glow - ing mass of  
Oh, the whole sky was one glow - ing mass of

\* (9) *ad libidum*

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58 *mf*

S col - ored flames, so might - y, so brave! Like a

A col - ored flames, so might - y, so brave! Like a

T col - ored flames, so might - y, so brave! Like a

B col - ored flames, so might - y, so brave! Like a



62 *f* *dim. poco a poco*

S path - way of light the north - ern lights seemed to draw us in - to the

A path - way of light the north - ern lights seemed to draw us in - to the

T path - way of light the north - ern lights seemed to draw us in - to the

B path - way of light the north - ern lights seemed to draw us in - to the

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8 **Con calma, espressivo** ♩. = 63-66

67

Chimes *mp*

W.-tuned glasses *mp*

S *mp*  
sky. Yes, it was harp - mu - sic, wild storm - ing in the dark - ness; the

A *mp*  
sky. Yes, it was harp - mu - sic, wild storm - ing in the dark - ness; the

T *mp*  
sky. Yes, it was harp - mu - sic, wild storm - ing in the dark - ness; the

B *mp*  
sky. Yes, it was harp - mu - sic, wild storm - ing in the dark - ness; the

**poco agitato e stringendo**

73

Chimes

W.-tuned glasses

S *cresc. poco a poco*  
strings trem - bled and spar - kled in the glow of the flames like a show - er of fier - y

A *cresc. poco a poco*  
strings trem - bled and spar - kled in the glow of the flames like a show - er of fier - y

T *cresc. poco a poco*  
strings trem - bled and spar - kled in the glow of the flames like a show - er of fier - y

B *cresc. poco a poco*  
strings trem - bled and spar - kled in the glow of the flames like a show - er of fier - y

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allarg.

♩. = 69-76

79

W.-tuned  
glasses

Musical score for measures 79-83. The score includes parts for W.-tuned glasses, Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The lyrics are: "darts. A fier - - y crown of au - ro - - - ral". The tempo is marked "allarg." with a quarter note equal to 69-76. Dynamics include *ff* and *dim. poco a poco*. There are repeat signs at the beginning and end of this section.

84

Musical score for measures 84-88. The score includes parts for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The lyrics are: "light cast a warm glow a - cross the arc - tic ice. Like a". The dynamics include *mf*. There are repeat signs at the beginning and end of this section.

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89 *f* *dim. poco a poco*

S path - way of light the north - ern lights seemed to draw us in - to the

A path - way of light the north - ern lights seemed to draw us in - to the

T path - way of light the north - ern lights seemed to draw us in - to the

B path - way of light the north - ern lights seemed to draw us in - to the



94 (Con calma, espressivo ♩. = 63-66)

Chimes *mp*

W.-tuned glasses *mp*

S sky. A - gain at times it was like soft - ly play - ing, gen - tly

A sky. A - gain at times it was like soft - ly play - ing, gen - tly

T sky. A - gain at times it was like soft - ly play - ing, gen - tly

B sky. A - gain at times it was like soft - ly play - ing, gen - tly

100

Chimes

W.-tuned glasses

S  
rock - ing, sil-ver-y waves, on which dreams trav - el, dreams trav - el

A  
rock - ing, sil-ver-y waves, on which dreams trav - el, dreams trav - el

T  
8  
rock - ing, sil-ver-y waves, on which dreams trav - el, dreams trav - el

B  
rock - ing, sil-ver-y waves, on which dreams trav - el, dreams trav - el



♩ = 60



106

Solo

Chimes

W.-tuned glasses

S  
*p* in - to un - known worlds. *legato* Oo

A  
*p* in - to un - known worlds. *legato* Oo

T  
8  
*p* in - to un - known worlds. *legato* Oo

B  
*p* in - to un - known worlds. *legato* Oo

Cik nak - snī - nas pret zie - me - li re - dzēj'

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112

Solo *mf* *dim. poco a poco*  
 k̄a - vus ka - ro - jam, Ę, re - dz̄ej' k̄a - vus ka - ro - jam, Ę, re - dz̄ej'

Chimes *mp*

W.-tuned glasses

S

A

T

B

118

**rit. a tempo**

Solo k̄a - vus ka - ro - jam, Ę, re - dz̄ej' k̄a - vus ka - ro - jam.

Chimes *p*

W.-tuned glasses

S Mm Mm

A Mm Mm

T Mm Mm

B Mm Mm

123

Musical score for six parts: Solo, Chimes, W.-tuned glasses, S, A, T, and B. The Solo part consists of six rests. The Chimes part features chords in the first five measures and a half note in the sixth. The W.-tuned glasses part has chords with long slurs across all six measures. The S, A, T, and B parts have half notes with long slurs across all six measures.