

Monotone

Carl Sandburg

J. Michael Saunders

♩ = c. 66

Piano *p*

with pedal throughout *simile*

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S *p* The mon-o-tone of the rain is beau - ti - ful,

A *p* The mon-o-tone of the rain is beau - ti - ful,

T *p* The mon-o-tone of the rain is

B *p* The mon-o-tone of the rain is

For Perusal Only

is beau² - ti - ful,

is beau² - ti - ful,

beau - ti - ful, beau² - ti - ful,

beau² - ti - ful, beau - ti - ful,

For Perusal Only

mf 34

And the sud-den rise

mf

And the sud-den rise

mf

And the sud-den rise

mf

And the sud-den rise

mf

mf and slow re - lapse *mp* of ² the

mf and slow re - lapse *mp* of the

mf and slow re - lapse *mp* of ² the

mf and slow re - lapse *mp* of ² the

mp

For Perusal Only

long mul - ti - tu - di - nous rain

long mul - ti - tu - di - nous rain

long mul - ti - tu - di - nous rain

long mul - ti - tu - di - nous rain

47 *mp*
Ah Ah Ah Ah

mf
Ah Ah

mp
Ah Ah Ah Ah

mf
Ah Ah

mf

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51 *mf*
Ah Ah Ah

mp *mf*
Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah

mf
Ah Ah Ah

mp *mf*
Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah

*sub. p**sub. p**sub. p**sub. p*

For Perusal Only

55

p

59

mp The sun

mp The sun

mp The sun

mp The sun

The sun

For Perusal Only

mf on the hills is

mf on the hills is

mf on the hills is

mf on the hills is

on the hills is

beau - ti - ful, Or a

beau - ti - ful, Or a

beau - ti - ful, Or a

beau - ti - ful, Or a

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65

cap - tured sun - set sea - flung, sea - flung, *sub. p*

cap - tured sun - set sea - flung, *sub. p*

cap - tured sun - set sea - flung, sea - flung, *sub. p*

cap - tured sun - set sea - flung, *p*

mf

Ban - nered with fire and

mf

Ban - nered with fire and gold.

mf

Ban - nered with fire and

mf

Ban - nered with fire and gold.

For Perusal Only

f

gold.

f

gold.

f

gold.

f

gold.

75 *sub. p*

Ah

sub. p

Ah

sub. p

Ah

sub. p

Ah

mp

p

Ah Ah Ah

Ah Ah Ah

Ah Ah Ah

Ah Ah Ah

For Perusal Only

77

mp cresc.

Ah

mp cresc.

Ah

mp cresc.

Ah

mp cresc.

Ah

cresc.

(ah)
 (ah)
 (ah)
 (ah)

ff

ff

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rit. *p*

85 **A tempo**

p *simile*

89

p
A face I know

p
A face I know

p
A face I know

p
A face I know

For Perusal Only

95

p
A face I know is

p
A face I know is

p
A face I know is

p
A face I know is

beau - ti - ful With fire and gold of sky and sea, *mf*

beau - ti - ful With fire and gold of sky and sea, *mf*

beau - ti - ful With fire and gold of sky and sea, *mf*

beau - ti - ful With fire and gold of sky and sea, *mf*

For Perusal Only

107 *p* 2

And the *p* 2

And the *p* 2

And the *p* 2

And the *p* 2

And the *p* 2

© protection

Piano accompaniment for the first system, consisting of two staves. The right hand plays a melody of eighth notes, and the left hand plays a bass line of eighth notes. The music is in a major key and 4/4 time.

non dim.

rain.

non dim.

rain.

non dim.

rain.

non dim.

rain.

Vocal and piano accompaniment for the second system. It features four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are marked *non dim.* and have the word "rain." written below them. The piano accompaniment continues with eighth-note patterns. The system concludes with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

122

2nd time: rit. e dim. al niente

About the composer

Jason Michael Saunders was born in 1989 and was raised in the Portland, Oregon area. He is currently pursuing a Masters degree in Choral Music at the University of Southern California. In 2011 he graduated from Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington, where he earned a Bachelor of Music Education degree with a Secondary Choral emphasis. His choral compositions have been performed by ensembles across the country and in Europe. Saunders has won composition awards from several choral ensembles, and in 2012 placed second nationally in the Choral Composition division of The American Prize (student category). Saunders has composed since the age of 16, and has conducted the premiere performances of many of his works. He held the role of Assistant Conductor of the PLU Men's Chorus under Dr. Brian Galante, and served as a section leader in PLU's Choir of the West and University Chorale. At Pacific Lutheran, Saunders studied composition with Dr. Gregory Youtz and choral conducting with Dr. Richard Nance.



About the poet

Carl Sandburg (1878–1967) was an American writer and editor best known for his poetry. He won two Pulitzer Prizes, one for his poetry and another for a biography of Abraham Lincoln. Born of humble beginnings, he had great feelings for the plight of the common man. *Monotone* was published in 1916 in a book titled *Chicago Poems* which was to bring him international fame as a poet.

Monotone

The monotone of the rain is beautiful,
And the sudden rise and slow relapse
Of the long multitudinous rain.

The sun on the hills is beautiful,
Or a captured sunset sea-flung,
Bannered with fire and gold.

A face I know is beautiful--
With fire and gold of sky and sea,
And the peace of long warm rain.

Range

S A T B

Listen to a recording at www.sbmp.com

performed by the Pacific Lutheran University Chorale
conducted by Brian Galante