

Commissioned by the Prior Lake Optimists Club  
for the 2008-2009 Prior Lake High School Treble Choir, Joshua Shank, Conductor

# I Am a Cloud

Sara Teasdale

Neil Ginsberg

Piano

*mp legato, freely with expression*

9

SA unis.  
*mp*

**Andante** ♩ = c. 100 Expressive, with conviction

I am I am I am I am I am I am I am I am I am

*p*

I am. I am I am I am I am I am

*p*

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17 *mp*

I am I am I am I am. I am a cloud.

in the heav-en's height,

21

# For Perusal Only

The stars are lit for my de-light.

25 *mf*

Tire-less and change - ful swift and free.

I cast my shad-ow on hill and sea.

31

S on hill and sea.

A *mp* I am I am I am I am I am

**For Perusal Only**

35

I am I am I am

I am I am I am I am I am I am

— I am I am I am I am I am I am. But

I am I am I am I am I am I am. But

39

why, but why, but why

why, but why, but why

**For Perusal Only**

do the pines on the mountain's crest Call to me always,

do the pines on the mountain's crest Call to me always,

45

“Rest, rest, rest,”

“Rest, rest, rest,”

49

Call to me al - ways, “Rest, rest,”

Call to me al - ways, “Rest, rest,”

**For Perusal Only**

53

rest, Call to me al - ways, “Rest,”

rest, Call to me al - ways, I am I am I am

**For Perusal Only**

— I am I am I am I am I am I am.

57

I throw my man - tle ov - er the moon...

I am, I am, I am,

**For Perusal Only**

61

And I blind the sun on his throne at noon...

— I am, I am

65

Noth- ing can tame\_ me Noth -  
 I am, I am, I am, I am, I am. Noth- ing can tame\_ me Noth -

67

- ing can bind... I am a child of the heart - less  
 - ing can bind... I am a child of the heart - less

**For Perusal Only**

wind, of the heart - less wind.  
 wind, of the heart - less wind.

75

I am I am.

I am I am.

**For Perusal Only**

*mf* 79

But oh, but oh, but

*mf*

But oh, but oh, but



oh, oh, the pines\_ on the moun - tain's crest.

oh, oh, the pines\_ on the moun - tain's crest.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 81 through 84. It features two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts have lyrics: "oh, oh, the pines\_ on the moun - tain's crest." The piano part consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

85 *mp*  
Whis-per - ing al - ways, "Rest, rest,

Whis-per - ing al - ways, "Rest, rest,

*mp*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 85 through 88. It features two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. Measure 85 is marked with a box containing the number 85 and the dynamic marking *mp*. The vocal parts have lyrics: "Whis-per - ing al - ways, 'Rest, rest,". A large red watermark "For Perusal Only" is overlaid across the center of the page.

89  
rest." Whis - per - ing al - ways, "Rest,

rest." \_ Whis - per - ing al - ways, "Rest, \_

Detailed description: This system contains measures 89 through 92. It features two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. Measure 89 is marked with a box containing the number 89. The vocal parts have lyrics: "rest." Whis - per - ing al - ways, "Rest," and "rest." \_ Whis - per - ing al - ways, "Rest, \_".

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93

*f*

"Rest, rest,

*f*

"Rest, rest, rest,

*f*

*mf*

rest, rest,

*mf*

rest, rest, rest,

*mf*

101

*mp*

rest, rest!"

rest, rest!"

*mp*

105

*pp*

I am I am.

*pp*

I am I am.

*pp*

**For Perusal Only**

### The Cloud

by Sara Teasdale, (1884 -1933), American

I am a cloud in the heaven's height,  
The stars are lit for my delight,  
Tireless and changeful, swift and free,  
I cast my shadow on hill and sea—  
But why do the pines on the mountain's crest  
Call to me always, "Rest, rest?"

I throw my mantle over the moon  
And I blind the sun on his throne at noon,  
Nothing can tame me, nothing can bind,  
I am a child of the heartless wind—  
But oh the pines on the mountain's crest  
Whispering always, "Rest, rest?"

### Range



883 - 12

### About the composer

Neil Ginsberg (b. 1969) currently teaches music at the Harlem Day Charter School; formerly, he was the co-chair of the performing arts department at Brooklyn Friends School. He is a visiting teaching artist with the International Schools Theater Association and the Hotchkiss School Summer Music Program. Ginsberg has written theatre works with young people at the Berkshire Ensemble for Theater Arts, Encore! Summer Theatre Program, The Learning Theater, the American International School of Nice, and the Henry Street Settlement in New York. He has been the recipient of numerous awards including Meet the Composer, the Temple Guild of Young Composers, New York City Fringe Festival Audience Choice Award and New Dramatists. He is a former faculty member of the Juilliard School of Drama, 92nd Street Y, and the First Unitarian Church of Brooklyn. Additionally, he has written music for Off Broadway productions and is a sought after conductor and pianist.

Neil received his Bachelors Degree from the Hartt School, a Master of Arts from Brooklyn College, and a Graduate Certificate in composition from the University of Southern California where he received the BMI award for excellence in film composition.