

For the Children

by David Himes

Poem by Gary Snyder

Commissioned by Berks Classical Children's Chorus
and premiered at their May 2012 Spring Concert
in Reading, Pennsylvania

for Children's Choir,
SSA Choir, SATB Choir
Piano
Marimba
Tom-toms
and
Crotales (Glockenspiel)

For the Children

by Gary Snyder

The rising hills, the slopes,
of statistics
lie before us.
the steep climb
of everything, going up,
up, as we all
go down.

In the next century
or the one beyond that,
they say,
are valleys, pastures,
we can meet there in peace
if we make it.

To climb these coming crests
one word to you, to
you and your children:

stay together
learn the flowers
go light

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Allegro (M.M. ♩ = c. 120)

The musical score is arranged in a vertical stack of staves. The top five staves are for the vocal ensemble: Children, Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature. The piano part consists of two staves, with the upper staff in treble clef and the lower in bass clef. The marimba part is in treble clef, and the tom-toms part is in a drum clef. The crotales part is in treble clef. The score shows three measures of music. The piano part has a *mf* dynamic marking. The marimba part has a *mf* dynamic marking and includes the instruction 'Tom-toms (3)'. The tom-toms part also has a *mf* dynamic marking.

For the Children

4
4

A

Ch.

S

A *mp* The ris - ing hills, the slopes, of sta -

T

B

Pno.

Mrb.

Toms

Crt. 2 octave crotales (glock. if not available) rubber (softer) mallets *mf*

For the Children

Ch.

S

A
tis - tics lie be - fore us. lie be - fore us.

T
lie be - fore us. lie be - fore us.

B
lie be - fore us.

Pno.

Mrb.

Toms

Crt.

8

mp *mf*

mp *mf*

mp

8

8

For the Children

6
13

Ch. *mp* **B** go - ing

S

A

T

B

Pno. *mf* *mp* metal (harder) mallets

Mrb. *mp*

Toms *mf* *mp*

Crt. *mp*

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for a piece titled 'For the Children'. It features five vocal parts: Chorus (Ch.), Soprano (S.), Alto (A.), Tenor (T.), and Bass (B.). The Chorus part has the lyrics 'go - ing' and is marked *mp*. A rehearsal mark 'B' is placed above the Chorus staff. The percussion section includes Piano (Pno.), Maracas (Mrb.), Tom-toms (Toms), and Congas (Crt.). The Piano part has a *mf* dynamic. The Maracas part has a *mp* dynamic. The Tom-toms part has a *mf* dynamic. The Congas part has a *mp* dynamic and a note indicating 'metal (harder) mallets'. The score is in 3/4 time, with a change to 3/4 time indicated by a double bar line and a new time signature. The number '6' is written above the first measure, and '13' is written above the first measure of the piano part. The Chorus part has a *mp* dynamic and a **B** rehearsal mark. The lyrics 'go - ing' are written below the Chorus staff. The Piano part has a *mf* dynamic. The Maracas part has a *mp* dynamic. The Tom-toms part has a *mf* dynamic. The Congas part has a *mp* dynamic and a note indicating 'metal (harder) mallets'.

For the Children

17

Ch. go - ing up, — as we all go down. go - ing

S

A *mf* the

T *mf* the

B *mf* the

Pno. *mf*

Mrb. *mf*

Toms *mf*

Crt. 17

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a piece titled "For the Children", page 7. The score is arranged for a vocal ensemble (Chorus, Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass), Piano, Maracas, Toms, and Congas. The vocal parts have lyrics: "go - ing up, — as we all go down. go - ing". The piano part has lyrics: "the the the". The maracas, toms, and congas parts have no lyrics. The score is in 2/4, 3/4, and 2/4 time signatures. The piano part has a dynamic marking of *mf*. The maracas, toms, and congas parts also have a dynamic marking of *mf*. The score is numbered 17 at the beginning of the first system and 17 at the beginning of the last system.

For the Children

8
23

Ch. go - ing up, — as we all go down. —

S

A steep — climb of ev - 'ry - thing,

T steep climb of ev - 'ry - thing,

B steep climb of ev - 'ry - thing,

Pno.

Mrb.

Toms

Crt.

23