

Commissioned by Andrew Potter for Jan Spooner Swabey and JuSSt Voices

Tread Softly

W. B. Yeats (1865–1939)

ALAN BULLARD

Andantino espressivo $\text{♩} = c. 50$

SOPRANO
ALTO

PIANO

mp *p*

5 *unis. p*

S./A. Had I the heav'ns' em - broid - ered cloths, En - wrought with gold - en and

p
con Ped.

8 *mf*

sil - ver light, The blue and the dim and the dark cloths Of

mf

Tread Softly sets the W. B. Yeats text 'He wishes for the Cloths of Heaven' from the collection *The Wind Among the Reeds*.

11 *p* night and light and the half - light, *mf* I would spread the

A. *p* night and light and the half - light, *mf* I would spread the

14 cloths un-der your feet: *p* Had I the heav'ns' em-

cloths un-der your feet: *p* Had I the heav'ns' em-

p gently

17 - broid - ered cloths, En - wrought with gold - en and sil - ver light, The

- broid - ered cloths, En - wrought with gold - en and sil - ver light, The

20

blue and the dim and the dark cloths Of night and light and the
blue and the dim and the dark cloths Of night and light and the

pp

Detailed description: This system contains measures 20, 21, and 22. It features a vocal line with two staves and a piano accompaniment with two staves. The vocal melody is in a minor key and consists of eighth and quarter notes. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand. A piano dynamic marking (*pp*) is placed at the beginning of the piano part.

23

half - light, I would spread the cloths,
half - light, I would spread the cloths,

mp

mp

mp

Ped.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 23 and 24. The vocal line continues with a similar melody. The piano accompaniment features a more active right hand with sixteenth-note patterns. A piano dynamic marking (*mp*) is present. A pedal point is indicated at the bottom of the piano part.

25

spread the cloths un - der your
spread the cloths un - der your

p *rit.*

p *pp* *rit.*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 25 and 26. The tempo is marked *rit.* (ritardando). The vocal line has a more melodic and slower feel. The piano accompaniment features a slower bass line and chords. Dynamic markings include *p* and *pp*. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' in the vocal line.