

# HOW LIKE A WINTER

for S.A.T.B. voices and piano  
with optional PianoTrax CD\*

*Words from "Sonnet 97" by  
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (1564-1616)*

*Music by  
RUTH MORRIS GRAY*

Tenderly ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 88\text{-}92$ )

The musical score consists of five staves. The top staff is for the PIANO, marked *mp*. The second staff is for SOPRANO, the third for ALTO, the fourth for TENOR, and the fifth for BASS. The vocal parts are aligned under the piano staff. The music is in common time, with a key signature of two flats. The vocal line begins with "How like a winter hath my absence been," followed by a melodic line for the piano. The vocal part continues with "like a winter, from thee." and concludes with "How like a winter." The piano accompaniment features eighth-note patterns throughout.

\* Also available for S.A.B (35569) and S.S.A. (35570).  
PianoTrax 3 Accompaniment CD available (34744).

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8

What  
— the pleas - ure of the fleet - ing year! —

11

freez - ings have I felt, what dark days seen!

What

13

Like a  
old De - cem - ber's bare - ness ev - 'ry - where!

15

poco rit.

win - ter,  
like a win - ter,  
like a  
like a win - ter,  
like a

18

a tempo

win - ter.  
win - ter.

21

decrese.

mp

Oo

poco rit.

23 a tempo

How like a win - ter

poco rit.

a tempo

## 24 SOPRANO

How like a win - ter.

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

hath my ab - sence been, like a win - ter.

hath my ab - sence been, like a win - ter, from thee.

## 27

How like a win - ter the pleas - ure of the fleet-ing year!

How like a win - ter the pleas - ure of the fleet-ing, of the

Of the

How like a win - ter.

How like a win - ter.

30

*mf* [31]

And yet this time re - moved was sum - mer's  
*mf*

fleet - ing year! And yet this time re - moved was sum - mer's  
fleet - ing year!

32

time;

time;

*mf*

The teem - ing au - tumn, big with rich in -  
*mf*

The teem - ing au - tumn, big with rich in -

*mf*

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34

like a win - ter, like a  
like a win - ter, like a win - ter, like a  
crease, like a  
crease, like a win - ter, like a

37

poco rit. a tempo  
win - ter, like a win - ter.  
poco rit. a tempo  
win - ter, like a win - ter.  
poco rit. a tempo  
win - ter, like a win - ter.

40

41 *mf*

How like a win - ter hath my ab - sence  
*mf*

How like a win - ter hath my ab - sence

8

*mp*

How like a win - ter. \_\_\_\_\_



43

been, like a win - ter, from thee.

*mp*

been, like a win - ter, how like a win - ter. \_\_\_\_\_

*mp*

How like a win - ter. \_\_\_\_\_

*mf*

How like a win - ter \_\_\_\_\_

*mf*

How like a win - ter \_\_\_\_\_



46

How like a win - ter. For  
the pleas - ure of the fleet-ing year!

49

sum - mer and his pleas - ures wait on thee,  
sum - mer and his pleas - ures wait on thee,

And,  
And,

51

Or,  
Or,

thou a - way, the ver - y birds are mute:  
thou a - way, the ver - y birds are mute:

if they sing, 'tis with so dull a cheer      like a win - ter,  
if they sing, 'tis with so dull a cheer      like a win - ter,      like a

like a

mf

mf

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56

poco rit.

like a win - ter, like a win - ter.

,

win - ter, like a win - ter, like a win - ter.

*mf* *poco rit.*

like a win - ter, like a win - ter.

*poco rit.*

59

*a tempo*

-

*a tempo*

How like a win - ter.

*a tempo*

*p*

How like a win - ter.

*a tempo*

*p*

How like a win - ter.

*a tempo*

*p*

How like a win - ter.

62

p rit.  
Win - ter. The leaves look pale, dread - ing the  
rit.  
The leaves look pale, dread - ing the  
,

The leaves look pale, dread - ing the  
rit.  
The leaves look pale, dread - ing the  
rit.  
The leaves look pale, dread - ing the  
rit.

65

a tempo decresc. e rit. pp  
win - ter's near.  
a tempo decresc. e rit. pp  
win - ter's near.  
a tempo decresc. e rit. pp  
win - ter's near.  
a tempo decresc. e rit. pp