

Commissioned for Heartland Men's Chorus, Dustin S. Cates, Artistic Director,  
by Bob Batterson and his husband, Todd Green, in memory of Bob's loving and encouraging mother,  
Joyce Batterson, a woman who embraced social justice and personal fortitude

# CAGED BIRD

(from *Like Dust I Rise*)

for T.T.B.B. voices and piano  
with optional SoundPax and SoundTrax CD\*

Text by  
MAYA ANGELOU (1928-2014)

Music by  
MARK HAYES

Steady tempo (♩ = ca. 76)

TENOR I  
TENOR II

BARITONE  
BASS

Steady tempo (♩ = ca. 76)

PIANO

*mp*

5

*mp* [7]

A free bird leaps on the

\* Also available for S.A.T.B. (46415) and S.S.A.A. (46416). SoundTrax CD available (46418).  
SoundPax available (DIGPX00052) - includes score and set of parts for Flute, Clarinet/Alto Saxophone,  
Tenor Saxophone, French Horn, 2 Trumpets, 2 Trombones, Percussion, Guitar, Bass, and Drumset.

Please visit [mayaangelou.com](http://mayaangelou.com) for more information.

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To purchase a full-length performance recording of this piece, go to [alfred.com/downloads](http://alfred.com/downloads)

back of the wind and floats down - stream till the

cur - rent ends, and dips his wing in the \*orange sun rays and

dares to claim the sky. But a bird that stalks down his

*mf* 15

\* Sing with one syllable.

16

nar - row cage can sel - dom see through his bars — of rage. His

19

wings are clipped, his feet are tied, so he o - pens his throat to

22

23

sing. The caged bird sings with a fear - ful trill of

25

things un - known but longed for still. His tune is heard on the

Musical score for measures 25-27. The system includes a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 8/8. The piano part features a steady accompaniment of chords and moving lines in both hands.

28

dis - tant hill, for the caged bird sings of

Musical score for measures 28-30. The system includes a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has three flats and the time signature is 8/8. Dynamics include *f* (forte) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The piano part has a more active accompaniment with some melodic lines.

31

free - dom

Musical score for measures 31-33. The system includes a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has three flats and the time signature is 8/8. The piano part features a prominent melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand.

34 35

The free bird thinks of an - oth - er — breeze and the

37

trade winds soft through the sigh - ing trees, the fat worms wait-ing on a

40

dawn bright lawn and he names the sky his own. But a

43

8

caged bird stands on the grave of \_\_\_ dreams, his shadow shouts on a

*f*

46

8

night - mare scream. His wings are clipped and his

48

*fp* *f* *mf*

feet are tied, so he

*fp* *f* *mf*

*mf* *f* *mf*

51 53

o - pens his throat to sing. The caged bird sings with a

54

fear - ful trill of things un - known but

56

longed for still. His tune is heard on the dis - tant hill,

59 *mf*  
8 for the caged bird sings of  
*mel. mf*

*mf*

61 *fp* *mel. f* 63  
8 free - dom. The caged bird sings with a  
*fp* *f*

*mp* *f*

64  
8 fear - ful trill of things un - known but



66

longed for still. His tune is heard on the dis - tant

69

hill, for the caged bird

72

sings of free - dom.