

(In Retrospect)

At the Midhour of Night

RUTH BYRCHMORE

♩ = c. 50 *with fluidity, legato*

Mezzo-soprano

At the mid - hour of, of night mm

5

the mid - hour of night, of night,

10

of night, of night, the stars, the stars are weep-ing, weep - ping I

15

fly to the lone vale, we fly to the

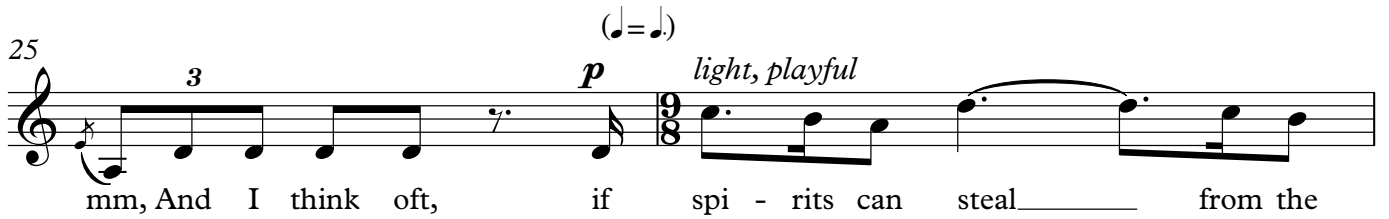
18

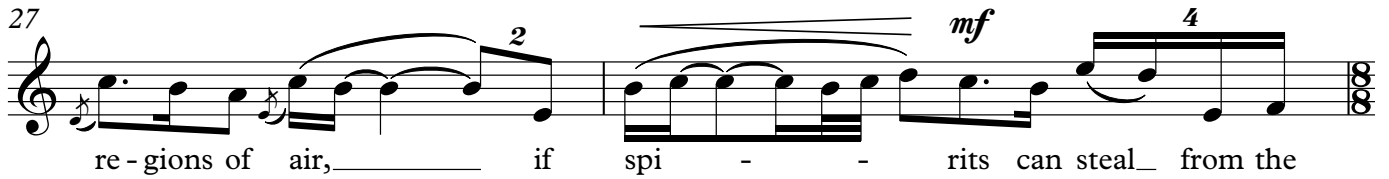
lone vale, the lone vale, we loved

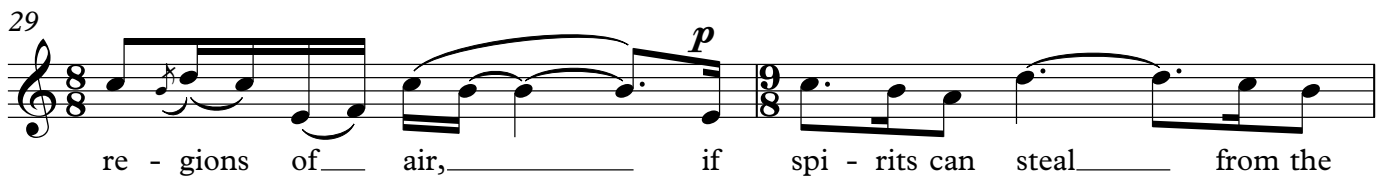
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Reflective

Ah mm Ah

25 $(\text{♩} = \text{♩})$
p *light, playful*

 mm, And I think oft, if spi - rits can steal _____ from the

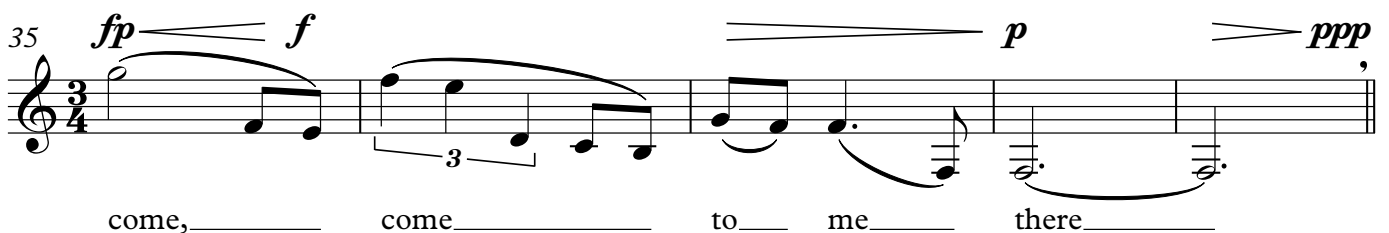
27

 re - gions of air, _____ if spi - rits can steal _____ from the

29

 re - gions of air, _____ if spi - rits can steal _____ from the

31

 re-gions of air _____ To re - vis - it past scenes, past scenes of de - light, To re

33 *keep moving*

 - vis - it past scenes of de - light, _____ of de - light _____ Thou wilt

35 *fp* *f* *p* *ppp*

 come, _____ come _____ to me _____ there _____

40 *fluid, legato*
p *pp* *p* *mf* *pp* *p*
 Ah mm Ah mm At the

45 *pp* *p*
 mid - hour of, of night I think oft

49 *mf* *p* *mf*
 Thou wilt come Ah to me, Ah to me,

52 *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *cold, keep moving*
 Ah to me, Ah, Ah, to me there And tell me our

57 *mf* *p*
 love is re - mem - bered e - ven in the sky

62 *mf* *waking up*
 And tell me our love is re - mem - bered

66 *f*

e-ven in the sky, is re - mem - bered e - ven in the sky,

69 *ff* *pp* *p* *with fluidity, legato*

is re-mem-bered e - ven in the sky At the

73 *pp* *p*

mid - - hour of, of night mm

76 *p* *mf*

mm Thou wilt come, come to me,

80 *f*

come to me and tell me our love is re mem - bered, is re

84

mem - bered, our love is re - mem - bered, Our love

87 *ff*

_____ is re - mem - bered e-ven in the sky, e-ven in the

91 *mf* *pp* *glassy, detached*

sky, e - ven in the sky _____ Thou wilt come to me

96 *p* *pp* *ultra calm*

there _____ And tell me our love is re - mem - bered E - ven in the

100

sky, E - ven in the sky, E - ven in

104 *pp*

the sky, _____ thou _____ wilt come to me there _____ And

107 *p*

tell me our love is re-mem - bered _____ E - ven in the sky, _____ E-ven in the sky _____

110 *pp*

_____ Come to me _____ there _____

Programme Note:

In Retrospect is about the passing of time. At the point of composition, I was interested in the very contrasting stylistic approaches to the subject of time passing in the poetry of Maya Angelou (In Retrospect), and Thomas Moore (At the mid hour of night).

The music is a direct response to Moore's text. Written for and premiered beautifully by Mia Serracino-Inglott, in June 2021.

*At the mid hour of night when stars are weeping, I fly
To the lonely vale we lov'd when life shone warm in thine eye;
And I think that if spirits can steal from the region of air,
To revisit past scenes of delight; thou wilt come to me there,
And tell me our love is remember'd even in the sky.*

November 2022