

from 'The Sacred Veil'

CHILD OF WONDER

for SATB chorus and piano

words and music by
ERIC WHITACRÉ

Tenderly $\text{♩} = 64$
p

SOPRANO
Child of won - der _____ child of sky. _____ Time to

ALTO
Child of won - der _____ child of sky. _____ Time to

TENOR
Child of won - der _____ child of sky. _____ Time to

BASS
Child of won - der _____ child of sky. _____ Time to

6

S. *mp* *p*
end your voy - age _____ time to die. _____ Si - lent slum - ber calls you _____ dark and

A. *mp* *p*
end your voy - age _____ time to die. _____ Si - lent slum - ber calls you _____ dark and

T. *mp* *p*
end your voy - age _____ time to die. _____ Si - lent slum - ber calls you _____ dark and

B. *mp* *p*
end your voy - age _____ time to die. _____ Si - lent slum - ber calls you _____ dark and

12

S. *mp* *p*
deep, _____ child of soft sur - ren - der _____ child of sleep, _____ child of

A. *mp* *p*
deep, _____ child of soft sur - ren - der _____ child of sleep, _____ child of

T. *mp* *p*
deep, _____ child of soft sur - ren - der _____ child of sleep, _____ child of

B. *mp* *p*
deep, _____ child of soft sur - ren - der _____ child of sleep, _____ child of

18

S. *p*
sleep. Child of sor - row, child of

A. *p*
sleep. Child of sor - row, child of

T. *p*
sleep. Child of sor - row, child of

B. *p*
sleep.

p
Pedal generously

22

S. rain. There is no to - mor - row, no more

A. rain. There is no to - mor - row, no more

T. rain. There is no to - mor - row, no more

B.

26

S. *mp* *p*
 pain. Turn your sil - vered sail toward the

A. *mp* *p*
 pain. Turn your sil - vered sail toward the

T. *mp* *p*
 pain. Turn your sil - vered sail toward the

B. *mp* *p*
 Turn your sil - vered sail toward the

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 26 through 29. It features four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "pain. Turn your sil - vered sail toward the". The vocal parts have dynamic markings of *mp* and *p*. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a similar pattern in the left hand.

30

S. *mp* *p*
 light, Child of mourn - ing, child of

A. *mp* *p*
 light, Child of mourn - ing, child of

T. *mp* *p*
 light, Child of mourn - ing, child of

B. *mp* *p*
 light, Child of mourn - ing, child of

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 30 through 33. It features four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "light, Child of mourn - ing, child of". The vocal parts have dynamic markings of *mp* and *p*. The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern as in the previous system.

34

S. *mf*
 night, child of night. Child of

A. *mf*
 night, child of night. Child of

T. *mf*
 night, child of night. Child of

B. *mf*
 night, child of night. Child of

38

S. *mf*
 ir - i - des - cence child of dream, Stars and

A. *mf*
 ir - i - des - cence child of dream, Stars and

T. *mf*
 ir - i - des - cence child of dream, Stars and

B. *mf*
 ir - i - des - cence child of dream, Stars and

42

S. moons will guide you down the stream. Stretched on

A. moons will guide you down the stream. Stretched on

T. moons will guide you down the stream. Stretched on

B. moons will guide you down the stream. Stretched on

Detailed description: This system contains measures 42 through 45 of the musical score. It features four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics for all parts are: "moons will guide you down the stream. Stretched on". The music is in a key with two flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor) and a 4/4 time signature. The vocal lines are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some longer notes and ties. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

46

S. o - cean waves of end - less foam, wel - come *mp*

A. o - cean waves of end - less foam, wel - come *mp*

T. o - cean waves of end - less foam, wel - come *mp*

B. o - cean waves of end - less foam, wel - come *mp*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 46 through 49 of the musical score. It features four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics for all parts are: "o - cean waves of end - less foam, wel - come". The dynamic marking *mp* (mezzo-piano) is indicated at the end of each vocal line. The music is in the same key and time signature as the previous system. The vocal lines continue with quarter and eighth notes, and some longer notes with ties. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines.

50

S. *p*
home my child, _____ wel - come home, _____ wel - come

A. *p*
home my child, _____ wel - come home, _____ wel - come

T. *p*
home my child, _____ wel - come home, _____ wel - come

B. *p*
home my child, _____ wel - come home, _____ wel - come

mp *p*

54

S. *slowly pp*
home, _____ wel - come home. ----- *mm* *)

A. *pp*
home, _____ wel - come home. ----- *mm* *)

T. *pp*
home, _____ wel - come home. ----- *mm* *)

B. *pp*
home, _____ wel - come home. ----- *mm* *)

slowly pp

And. al Fine

*) close slowly to *mm*

Los Angeles, February 2019



NOTES FROM THE COMPOSER

“Child Of Wonder” is the last movement of *The Sacred Veil*, a twelve-movement work written with poet Charles Anthony (Tony) Silvestri (*Sleep, Lux Aurumque, Leonardo Dreams of His Flying Machine*). *The Sacred Veil* chronicles the rich life of Tony and his late wife Julie Silvestri: their courtship, the birth of their children, Julie’s diagnosis of ovarian cancer, her treatment, her struggle, and finally, her death.

I decided to write the poetry for “Child Of Wonder” myself, with the hope that it would serve as a kind of benediction, not only for Julie, but for my best friend Tony.

~Eric Whitacre

Other works available:

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The Sacred Veil (Full Work)

“Child Of Wonder” was commissioned by Los Angeles Master Chorale, Grant Gershon, Artistic Director. The United States premiere was given at Walt Disney Concert Hall on June 17, 2017. It was co-commissioned by the NTR ZaterdagMatinee, Radio 4’s concert series in The Concertgebouw Amsterdam, for the Netherlands Radio Choir.

The Sacred Veil was premiered at Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles, in February 2019, conducted by the composer.

ABOUT THE COMPOSER



Grammy® Award-winning composer and conductor Eric Whitacre is among today’s most popular musicians. His works have been programmed worldwide by millions of amateur and professional performers, while his ground-breaking Virtual Choirs have united singers from over 120 different countries. Eric, a graduate of the prestigious Juilliard School of Music, is presently Artist in Residence with the Los Angeles Master Chorale, following five years as Composer in Residence at the University of Cambridge, UK.

As conductor of the Eric Whitacre Singers, he has released such chart-topping albums including *Light and Gold* and *Water Night*. In high demand as guest conductor, he has drawn capacity audiences to concerts with the Netherlands Radio Choir, London Symphony Orchestra, Flemish Radio Choir, and Minnesota Orchestra. His creative versatility shines through collaborations with legendary Hollywood composer Hans Zimmer and British pop icons Laura Mvula, Imogen Heap and Annie Lennox, and major classical commissions for, among others, the BBC Proms, Minnesota Orchestra, Rundfunkchor Berlin, The Tallis Scholars, Chanticleer, Los Angeles Master Chorale and The King’s Singers.

A charismatic speaker, Eric Whitacre has given keynote addresses for many Fortune 500 companies and global institutions, from Apple and Google to the World Economic Forum in Davos and the United Nations Speaker’s Programme, while his two mainstage talks at the hugely influential TED conference in Long Beach CA received standing ovations. He reached new audiences in 2018 when his composition *Deep Field* became the foundation for a pioneering audiovisual collaboration between Eric, NASA, the Space Telescope Science Institute, Music Productions and 59 Productions.