

## A Red, Red (Noun)

for TB choir and piano

#### Commissioned in 2016 by the North Central Division of ACDA Commissioning Consortium for Young Men.

Boeckman Middle School 7th & 8th Grade Guys Choirs, Farmington, MN, Sarah O'Banion, conductor
Cincinnati Boychoir, Cincinnati, OH, Christopher Eanes, conductor
Craig Concert Boys Choir, Abilene, TX, Wendy Weeks, conductor
Flower Mound High School, Flower Mound, TX, Mark Rohwer, conductor
Hampton-Dumont Choir, Hampton, IA, Jesse Bunge, Savannah Veenstra, conductor
Light of Christ Academy Boy Choir, Bismarck, ND, Vicky Boechler, conductor
MFL MarMac 7th & 8th Grade Men's Chorus, Jaydeane Berns, conductor
North Fayette Valley 7-8 Boys Chorus, West Union, IA, Douglas Poppen, conductor
Pine Island Panther Boys Choir, Pine Island, MN, Michael Jeffrey, conductor
Pleasant Valley Junior High Tenor & Bass Choir, LeClaire, IA, Peter Grau, conductor
Prairie Point Men's Choirs, Cedar Rapids, IA, Kelly Truax, conductor
Wayzata Central Middle School Boys Select Choir, Wayzata, MN, Chris Larson, conductor
Young Junior High Young Men, Arlington, TX, Christine Jones, conductor



## Text (the real version):

O my Luve's like a red, red rose That's newly sprung in June; O my Luve's like the melodie That's sweetly play'd in tune.

As fair art thou, my bonnie lass, So deep in luve am I: And I will luve thee still, my dear, Till a' the seas gang dry:

Till a' the seas gang dry, my dear, And the rocks melt with the sun: I will luve thee still, my dear, While the sands of life shall run.

And fare thee well, my only Luve And fare thee well, a while! And I will come again, my Luve, Tho' it were ten thousand mile.

- Robert Burns

#### Or...

(noun)
(adverb)
(adverb)
(noun)
(adjective)
(verb)
(plural noun)
(verb)
(previous plural noun)
(previous verb)
(term of endearment)
(verb)
(baked good)
(plural noun)
(noun)
(previous verb)
(same verb)
(same baked good)
(plural noun)

### Notes from the composer:

So this is obviously not a normal choral piece. The funny thing is, I'm usually really picky about the texts I choose to set to music, and with this piece, I'm giving that responsibility to you.

You could sing this with the real poem by Robert Burns, amd it will sound lovely. But this piece is a word game, a chance for you to make the piece your own. So go wild. Make a funny version. Make a sci-fi version, have a high-ranking city official make one.

#### Here are some thoughts and ideas:

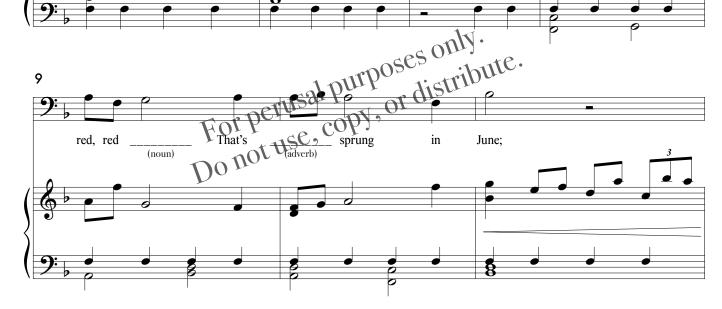
- 1. It doesn't matter how many syllables are in your version. But you'll have to figure out how to squeeze them into the spots in the piece. There are some places where it would be easy to add a pick-up syllable (m. 9, 14, etc.) on "4 and." Depending on your new word in m. 20-21 you might use the last eighth as part of the new word, or you could slur it to the previous eighth on "my." In m. 42 there are three notes you could use (or not), and there are places like m. 33 where time is short and you've just got to make the best of it.
- 2. I'm usually really specific about where I want you to breath, but I'm going to leave that up to you. If it makes sense to cut a half note down to a quarter so you can breathe, do it.
- 3. From where I sit, I think you should sing this straight that is, don't give away the fact that it's funny, or unexpected. Let the audience figure that out. But again, you might have a totally different way of going about it. In that case, go ahead.
- 4. You could write in your score in pencil, but even after a few versions that score is going to look a mess. Another idea is to get those little Post-It flags and use those above the music where the new word goes.
- 5. In your printed program, leave the title as is. Don't insert a new word for (Noun).
- 6. Let's see how many of these we can all make. Video your performance and post it on YouTube. Title it "(Your Choir Name) sings "A Red, Red (Noun)" by Timothy C. Takach." Then tag it with "Timothy C. Takach," "Choral Mad Lib" and "Red, Red (Noun)." I want to hear what you do!

- Timothy C. Takach (2016)

# A Red, Red (Noun)

Timothy C. Takach (2016) Robert Burns (mostly) (Adverb)  $\sqrt{\phantom{a}} = 88$ T/B Do not use, co mf 5 0 Luve's like a my















Reviewed as "gorgeous" (Washington Post) and "stunning" (Lawrence Journal-World), the music of Timothy C. Takach has risen fast in the concert world. Applauded for his melodic lines and rich, intriguing harmonies, Takach has received commissions from the St. Olaf Band, Cantus, Pavia Winds, Lorelei Ensemble, VocalEssence, the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, The Rose Ensemble, and numerous other organizations. His compositions have been performed on A Prairie Home Companion, The Boston Pops holiday tour, multiple All-State and festival programs and at venues such as the Library of Congress, Kennedy Center and Royal Opera House Muscat. He is a co-creator of the theatrical production of All is Calm: the Christmas Truce of 1914, by Peter Rothstein.

Takach studied music composition at St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN, where he graduated with honors. He has frequent national work as a composer-in-residence, presenter, clinician and lecturer. He is a full-time composer and lives in Minneapolis with his wife and two sons.

(earthsongs)

(Graphite Publishing)

(Graphite Publishing)

(Graphite Publishing)

## Selected vocal works by Timothy C. Takach:

A Depth We Cannot Sound A Worshipper and a Man

And I Saw

As the Sunflower Turns on Her God

The Darkling Thrush

Fragile

Listen to the Apples

Neither Angels, Nor Demons, Nor Powers Nubes Oriebatur: the eruption of Vesuvius

One Boy Told Me

Su Rahva Koda (The House of Your Kindred)

This Alien Landscape This Amazing Life

We Are Lost, We Are Lucky

And I Saw Cassiopeia

Home on the Range (arr. American Folk Song)

Queen of the Range

Serenade

She Moved Through the Fair (arr. Irish Ballad)

The Streets of Laredo (arr. American Folk Song)

There is No Rose Torn Map

**Twenty Questions** 

All Natures, Even Mine

**Empty** 

Goodbye, Then I Will Howl

Kin

Luceat Eis

Mad

Original Harmony Rough Beast

Salve Regina

Things I Didn't Know I Loved

The Longest Nights (ca. 21')

True North (ca. 16')

We Made a Grave For Him, And Her Smoke Rose Up Forever (ca. 10')

Where Beauty Comes From (ca. 16')

SATB, vibraphone, marimba, large tom

SATB a cappella

SATB div. a cappella

SSAATBB div, Sop. solo, SSATB soli, a cappella

SATB, SAT soli, a cappella

SATB, hand drum

SATB div. a cappella

(Graphite Publishing) SSATBB a cappella

SSATBB a cappella

SATB, piano

SSAATTBB a cappella SATB, crotales, suspended cymbal, bass drum

SA(T)B, piano

SATB, piano

SSAA div. a cappella

SSA a cappella

2-part treble, piano

SA, piano

SSAA a cappella

SSAA a cappella

(Graphite Publishing) Unison, TTB, piano

(Lorelei Ensemble) SSAA, SS soli, a cappella (Graphite Publishing)

SA, piano

2-part treble, piano

TTTBB a cappella

TB (opt. div), piano, opt. djembe

TBB choir, Bb clarinet, piano

TBB choir, piano or cello

TB, piano

TTTBB a cappella

TB, piano

TTBB a cappella

TTBB, percussion

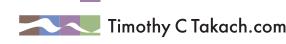
TBB semi-chorus, TTBB a cappella

TTBB a cappella

SATB, piano or string quartet SATB, chamber orchestra

TTBB a cappella

TBB, 2-part, SSAA, SATB; piano



(Colla Voce)

(Graphite Publishing)

(Graphite Publishing)

(Jeremy D. Jones Male Choral Series)