

SBMP 1116, \$1.95
THE KISS, Childs

SATB
piano
duration: 4:05

The Kiss

music by
David N. Childs

text by
Sara Teasdale



Santa Barbara Music Publishing, Inc.

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About the composer

David N. Childs, b. 1969 at Nelson, New Zealand, has a Bachelor's degree in composition and musicology from Canterbury University, Christchurch, New Zealand; a Master of Music degree in conducting from the Florida State University, Tallahassee; and a Doctorate of Musical Arts degree from Louisiana State University. From 2000-2011 Dr. Childs served as tenured Associate Professor of Choral Studies at the Blair School of Music, Vanderbilt University, Nashville. He has conducted numerous All-State and honor choirs, and his compositions frequently appear at state festivals and workshops, and at ACDA state, regional, and national conventions. He has received commissions from around the world, including Japan, New Zealand, and South Africa. In 2010 he was voted the Tennessee Composer of the Year. In



August of 2010 he accepted the Director of Choral Music position at Highland Park United Methodist Church in Dallas. In addition, in 2010 he established Vox Humana, a Dallas-based professional choir of twenty-four voices, serving as their Executive and Artistic Director. David is married to Lesley French Childs, a laryngologist at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, and is the proud father of two young daughters. Visit sbmp.com to see scores and hear recordings.

About the text

The composition uses as text the first two stanzas of a poem by Sara Teasdale combined with an adaptation of Corinthians 13: 4, 7.

About the poet

American poet Sara Teasdale (1884-1933), with this first of two poems titled *The Kiss*, celebrated the love that culminated in her 1914 marriage to Ernst Filsinger. The poem, written in 1915, appears in *Rivers to the Sea*, her third published collection of poems. It reflects a happy time in a lifetime often wrought with despair due to her poor physical and mental health. In 1916 she moved with her new husband to New York City, and in 1918, she won the Columbia University Poetry Society Prize (which became the Pulitzer Prize for poetry), and the Poetry Society of America Prize for *Love Songs*, which had appeared in 1917. Her second poem titled *The Kiss* is included in that collection.

The Kiss

Before you kissed me only winds of heaven
Had kissed me, and the tenderness of rain—
Now you have come, how can I care for kisses
Like theirs again?

I sought the sea, she sent her winds to meet me,
They surged about me singing of the south—
I turned my head away to keep still holy
Your kiss upon my mouth.

from Rivers to the Sea

Corinthians 13:4, 7

Love is patient, love is kind.
Love rejoices with the truth in heart and mind.
It always protects, it always trusts, it always hopes.
Love never fails.

Range



Visit www.sbmp.com to hear a recording

To the Plano Senior High School A Cappella Choir,
for their 2013 American Choral Directors Association National Convention Performance,
Derrick D. Brookins, Conductor & Rachel Keen, Associate Conductor

The Kiss

Sara Teasdale

David N. Childs

Moderato ♩ = c. 74

Piano

5 *mp*

S Be - fore you kissed me, be - fore you kissed me on - ly

A Be - fore you kissed me, be - fore you kissed me on - ly

winds of heav'n, _____ of heav'n had kissed me, heav'n had kissed me,

winds of heav'n, _____ of heav'n had kissed me, heav'n had kissed me,

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and the ten-der-ness of rain, and the ten-der-ness of rain. —

and the ten-der-ness of rain, and the ten-der-ness of rain. —

14 *mf*

S Be - fore you kissed me, be - fore you kissed me on - ly

A Be - fore you kissed me, be - fore you kissed me on - ly

T Be - fore you kissed me.

B Be - fore you kissed me.

winds of heav'n, _____ of heav'n had kissed me, heav'n had kissed me,
 winds of heav'n, _____ of heav'n had kissed me, heav'n had kissed me,
 Winds of heav'n, of heav'n had kissed me, heav'n had kissed me,
 Winds of heav'n had kissed me, heav'n had kissed me,

Winds of heav'n had kissed me, heav'n had kissed me,

and the ten-der-ness of rain. *cresc.* 21 *f* Now you've come,
 and the ten-der-ness of rain. *cresc.* *f* Now you've come,
 and the rain. *cresc.* *f* Now you've come,
 and _____ the rain. *cresc.* *f* Now you've come,

8va ----- 7
8va ----- 1
8va ----- 1 *loco*

now you have come, how can I care for kiss-es like theirs a -

now you have come, how can I care for kiss-es like theirs a -

now you have come, how can I care for kiss-es like theirs a -

now you've come, how can I care for kiss-es like theirs a -

8vb--1 loco *loco* *8vb--1 loco*

gain. Love is pa-tient, love is

gain. Love is pa-tient, love is

gain. Love is pa-tient, love is

gain. Love is pa-tient, love is

decresc. *8va--*

26 *mf*

kind. Love re - joic - es with the heart and mind. It

kind. Love re - joic - es, heart and mind. It

kind. Love re - joic - es, heart and mind. It

kind. Love re - joic - es, heart and mind. It

8^{va}

8^{vb}

loco

3

3

3

al-ways pro-pects, — it al-ways trusts, it al-ways hopes, it

pro-pects, al-ways trusts, it al-ways hopes, it

pro-pects, al-ways trusts, it al-ways hopes, it

pro-pects, al-ways trusts, it al-ways hopes,

mp 31

mp

mp

mp

mp

8^{va}

8^{vb}

34 **Più mosso** ♩ = c. 82

rit. *mf*

al - ways hopes. I sought the sea, I sought the

rit. *mf*

al - ways hopes. I sought the sea, I sought the

rit. *mf*

al - ways hopes. I sought the sea, I sought the

rit. *mf*

al - ways hopes. I sought the sea, I sought the

Più mosso ♩ = c. 82

rit. *mf*

sea, she sent her winds to meet me,

sea, she sent her winds to meet me,

sea, she sent her winds to meet me,

sea, she sent her winds to meet me,

38

They surged a - bout me sing - ing of the south, I turned a -
 They surged a - bout sing - ing of the south, I turned a -
 They surged a - bout sing - ing of the south, turned a -
 They surged a - bout sing - ing of the south, turned a -

rit. p **42** **Moderato** ♩ = c. 74

way, I turned a - way to keep still
 way, I turned a - way, a - way, I turned a - way to keep still
 way, a - way to keep still
 way, a - way to keep still

rit. p **Moderato** ♩ = c. 74

mp ho - ly, to keep still ho - ly your *mp*
 ho - ly, keep still ho - ly your *mp*
 ho - ly, keep still ho - ly your *mp*
 ho - ly, keep still ho - ly your *mp*
 ho - ly, keep still ho - ly your *mp*
 ho - ly, keep still ho - ly your *mp*

kiss up - on my mouth, my mouth.
 kiss up - on my mouth, my mouth.
 kiss up - on my mouth, my mouth.
 kiss up - on my mouth, my mouth.
 kiss up - on my mouth, my mouth. *cresc.*

50

f

Now you've come, now you have come, how can I care for

f

Now you've come, now you have come, how can I care for

f

Now you've come, now you have come, how can I care for

f

Now you've come, now you've come, how can I care for

f

8^{va}-1 loco *8^{va}-1 loco* *8^{va}-----1 loco*

55 *mf*

kiss-es like theirs a - gain. Love is pa-tient, love is

mf

kiss-es like theirs a - gain. Love is pa-tient, love is

mf

kiss-es like theirs a - gain. Love is pa-tient, love is

mf

kiss-es like theirs a - gain. Love is pa-tient, love is

8^{va}-----1 loco *decresc.* *mf*

kind. Love re-joic-es with the heart and mind. It

kind. Love re-joic-es, heart and mind. It

kind. Love re-joic-es, heart and mind. It

kind. Love re-joic-the heart mind. It

(Sua)-----¹

sub-----¹ *loco*

al-ways pro-tects, it al-ways trusts, it al-ways hopes, it

pro-tects, al-ways trusts, it al-ways hopes, it

pro-tects, al-ways trusts, it al-ways hopes, it

pro-tects, al-ways trusts, it al-ways hopes,

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

sub-¹ *loco*

[62] Più mosso ♩ = c. 82 *mf*

rit. al - ways hopes. Love nev - er fails, nev - er

rit. al - ways hopes. Love nev - er fails, nev - er

rit. al - ways hopes. Love nev - er

rit. al - ways hopes. Love nev - er

Più mosso ♩ = c. 82 *mf*

f cresc.

fails. Love nev-er fails, nev - er fails. Love nev-er

fails. Love nev - er fails.

fails. Love nev - er fails.

fails. Love nev - er fails.

f cresc.

67

S fails, nev-er fails. Love nev-er fails, nev-er

S *f cresc.* Love nev-er fails, nev-er fails. Love nev-er fails, nev-er

A *f cresc.* Love nev-er fails. Love nev-er

T *f cresc.* Love nev-er fails. Love nev-er

B *f cresc.* Love nev-er fails. Love nev-er

8^{vb-1} loco *8^{vb-1} loco* *ff*

71

S fails. It al-ways pro-TECTS, it al-ways trusts,

A fails. It al-ways pro-TECTS, it al-ways trusts,

T fails. It al-ways pro-TECTS, it al-ways trusts,

B fails. It al-ways pro-TECTS, it al-ways trusts,

8^{vb-1} loco *8^{vb-1} loco* *3*

75

love al - ways hopes, love al - ways

love al - ways hopes, love al - ways

8 love al - ways hopes, love al - ways

love al - ways hopes, love al - ways

f *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

hopes. Love nev - er fails.

hopes. Love nev - er fails.

8 hopes. Love nev - er fails.

hopes. Love nev - er fails.

p rit. *p rit.* *p rit.* *p rit.*

hopes. Love nev - er fails.

rit. *p*