

To the Townspeople of Amherst, Massachusetts, 1759-1959

The Road Not Taken*

for four-part chorus of mixed voices with piano or orchestra

Robert Frost

Randall Thompson

Andante moderato (♩ = 70)

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

PIANO

p legato

pp 5

Two roads di-verg'd in a yel - low wood And sor-ry I could not

pp

Two roads di-verg'd in a yel - low wood And sor-ry I could not

pp

Two roads di-verg'd in a yel - low wood And sor-ry I could not

pp

Two roads di-verg'd in a yel - low wood And sor-ry I could not

pp 5

*Text from *You Come Too*, by Robert Frost. Copyright 1916, 1921, 1923, 1947, © 1959, by Henry Holt and Company, Inc., Copyright 1942, 1944, 1951, by Robert Frost, and used with their permission.

Cover photograph: © Copyright 1987 by E. C. Schirmer Music Company Inc., Boston.

© Copyright 1959 by E. C. Schirmer Music Company, Boston.

© Copyright 1960 by E. C. Schirmer Music Company, Boston, for all countries.

Copyright renewed 1987, 1988 by E. C. Schirmer Music Company Inc., Boston.



10

tra - vel— both And be one trav'l - er, long I stood And

tra - vel— both And be one trav'l - er, long I stood And

tra - vel— both And be one trav'l - er, long I stood And

tra - vel— both And be one trav'l - er, long I stood And

10

look'd down one as far as I could To where it bent in the

look'd down one as far as I could To where it bent in the

look'd down one as far as I could To where it bent in the

look'd down one as far as I could To where it bent in the

15 *p*

un - der - growth. Then

un - der - growth. Then

un - der - growth. Then

un - der - growth. Then

20

took the oth - er as just as — fair, And hav - ing per - haps the

took the oth - er as just as — fair, And hav - ing per - haps the

took the oth - er as just as — fair, And hav - ing per - haps the

took the oth - er as just as — fair, And hav - ing per - haps the

20 - *p*

bet - ter__ claim, Be - cause it was gras - sy and want - ed wear; Though

bet - ter__ claim, Be - cause it was gras - sy and want - ed wear; Though

bet - ter__ claim, Be - cause it was gras - sy and want - ed wear; Though

bet - ter__ claim, Be - cause it was gras - sy and want - ed wear; Though

25

as for that the pass - ing__ there Had worn them real - ly a -

as for that the pass - ing__ there Had worn them real - ly a -

as for that the pass - ing__ there Had worn them real - ly a -

as for that the pass - ing__ there Had worn them real - ly a -

25

30 *p*

bout the same. And *p*

bout the same. And *p*

bout the same. And *p*

bout the same. And *p*

cresc. *mf cresc.* *f p*

35

both that morn - ing e - qual - ly lay In leaves no step had

both that morn - ing e - qual - ly lay In leaves no step had

both that morn - ing e - qual - ly lay In leaves no step had

both that morn - ing e - qual - ly lay In leaves no step had

35 *pp* *mp* *p*

trod - den__ black. Oh, I kept the first for an - oth - er__ day! Yet

trod - den black. Oh, I kept the first for an - oth - er__ day! Yet

trod - den black. Oh, I kept the first for an - oth - er__ day!

trod - den black. Oh, I kept the first for an - oth - er day! Yet

mp *p* *mf*

40

know-ing how way__ leads__ on__ to__ way, I doubt-ed if I should

know-ing how__ way leads on to__ way, I doubt-ed if I should

Know - ing__ way leads on to way, I doubt-ed if I should

know-ing how way leads on to way, I doubt-ed if I should

mp *mp* *p*

45

ev - er come back. _____

ev - er come back. _____

ev - er come back. _____

ev - er come back. _____

45

p

m. d. poco a poco cresc.

mf

50

(poco rall.)

pp

(poco rall.) *pp*

(poco rall.) *pp*

(poco rall.) *pp*

(poco rall.) *pp*

50.

poco rall.

m. d.

f

ff

p

a tempo 55
pp

shall be tell - ing this with a sigh Some-where a - ges and

a tempo *pp*

shall be tell - ing this with a sigh Some-where a - ges and

a tempo *pp*

shall be tell - ing this with a sigh — Some-where a - ges and

a tempo *pp*

shall be tell - ing this with a sigh Some-where a - ges and

a tempo 55
pp

pp

a - ges hence: Two roads di-verg'd in a wood, and I -

pp

a - ges hence: Two roads di-verg'd in a wood, and I -

pp

a - ges hence: Two roads di-verg'd in a wood, and I -

pp

a - ges hence: Two roads di-verg'd in a wood, and I -

60

I took the one less trav-el'd by, _____ And

I took the one less trav-el'd by, _____ And

I took the one less trav-el'd by, _____ And

I took the one less trav-el'd by, _____ And

60

that has made all the dif-fer-ence. *p dim. poco rall. pp*

that has made all the dif-fer-ence. *p dim. poco rall. pp*

that has made all the dif-fer-ence. *p dim. poco rall. pp*

that has made all the dif-fer-ence. *p dim. uniti poco rall. pp*

65

poco rall.

pp dolcissimo

pp

Poco allegretto (♩ = 88)

70

Poco allegretto (♩ = 88)

70

(poco rall.) 75

poco rall.

Poco meno mosso del Tempo I°

pp And that has made — all — the — dif - fer -

pp And that has made — all — the — dif - fer -

pp And that has made — all — the — dif - fer -

pp And that has made — all the — dif - fer -

p dim. *rall.*

Poco meno mosso del Tempo I°

rall.

80 Tempo I°

pp (rall.) 85

ence. *pp* (rall.)

ence. *pp* (rall.)

8 *pp* (rall.)

divisi ence. *pp* (rall.)

80 Tempo I°

pp *mp dim.* *m.s.* *pp* *ppp* 85

THE ROAD NOT TAKEN*

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I —
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

ROBERT FROST