

Four Winter Postcards, Op.1g

Chris Finlayson

For Soprano voice with Piano
accompaniment.

Realisation of original score of 1992.

I. Andante
II. Largo
III. Maestoso - Allegro
IV. Lento moderato

This song-cycle was composed for my
AS-level music portfolio in 1992,
as combined with some poetic doodles
from my school English classes.

Postcard #1

I feel a chill from the North.
It draws upon the lifeblood of nature.
Take cover, take cover creatures all,
for the cold has come to stalk you.
It lies in wait, ready to emerge,
as winter's cloak descends.

Postcard #2

Behold! A shroud of frost,
clinging, choking, covering.
How dead the world looks under
its carpet of dazzling white.

The ice spreads its crooked claws
to the four corners of the land.
Leaving its magic and mystic patterns
like a web of lace in the dim light.

Postcard #3

The winds freeze my vulnerable bones.
How they sting like vile nettles in the woods.
I now long for the warmth of spring
to escape from nature's almighty scourge

Postcard #4

The first snowflake hovers low.
It drifts on the wings of the breeze.
It flies as free as a bird.

How deftly and silently it travels.
Until it finally sinks calmly down
and lands softly on the icy grass.

(Text; Chris Finlayson, 1992)

I. Postcard #1

Andante ♩ = 84

Soprano Solo

Piano *pp*

Red.

7 **molto rit.** **a tempo**

S. Solo

p *mp*

I feel a chill from the North. It draws

Pno.

13

S. Solo

mp

up-on the life blood of na-ture. Take co-ver, take co-ver

Pno.

19 **rit.** **a tempo**

S. Solo
 crea - tures all. For the cold has come to stalk you.

Pno.
mp *p*

24 *mp* *p*

S. Solo
 It lies in wait, rea - dy to e - merge.

Pno.
mp *p*

29 *pp* **rit.**

S. Solo
 As win - ter's cloak des - cends...

Pno.
pp *ppp* *pppp*



II. Postcard #2

6

1 **Largo** (♩ = 40)

S. Solo *p* *pp*

Be - hold! A shroud of frost, cling - ing chok - ing

Pno. *p* *pp*

7 *p*

S. Solo *p*

co - ver - ing

Pno. *p* *pp* *ppp*

13 *p*

S. Solo *p*

How dead_ the world looks un - der

Pno. *pp*

19 *mp* *p*

S. Solo

its car - pet of daz - ling white.

Pno.

ppp

26 *pp* 3

S. Solo

The ice spreads its crook-ed claws, to the four

Pno.

pp

ppp

31

S. Solo

cor-ners of the land. Leav - ing its ma - gic and mys - tic

Pno.

36

S. Solo

pat - terns like a web of lace in the dim

Pno.

40

S. Solo

light.

Pno.

ppp

pp

III. Postcard #3

1 Maestoso

S. Solo

Pno.

ff *f* *mf*

Ped. *

Allegro, poco agitato

8

S. Solo

Pno.

mf *p*

12

S. Solo

Pno.

f *mf*

The winds freeze my vulner-able bones.

10

16 *ff*

S. Solo

How_ they_ sting like vi-le net-tles in

Pno.

f *ff* *f*

20

S. Solo

the wood.

Pno.

ff *f*

24 **poco accel.** **Maestoso (Tempo I)** **Adagio (♩=72)**

S. Solo

I now

Pno.

ff *fff* *ppp*

8va

29

S. Solo

long for the warmth of spring to es - cape from _____ na-tures

Pno.

pppp

pp

p

37

S. Solo

al-migh-ty scourge.

Pno.

p

red.

43

S. Solo

Pno.

IV. Postcard #4

12

1 **Lento moderato** (♩ = 48) *pp sotto voce* *p*

S. Solo

The first snow-flake ho-vers low. It drifts

Pno.

pppp *ppp* *pp*

8

S. Solo

on the wings of the breeze. It flies as free as a bird.

Pno.

pp *ppp*

14 **poco rit.** **a tempo** *pp sotto voce*

S. Solo

How deft - ly

Pno.

mp *pp* *ppp*

8va

21

S. Solo

and si-lent-ly it tra-vels un - til it fi-nal-ly sinks down calm-ly and__

Pno.

27

S. Solo

lands_ soft-ly on the ic - y grass.

Pno.

pppp