

# **Song of Caedmon**

for soprano and two doublebasses

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Sarah Rodgers

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Edition

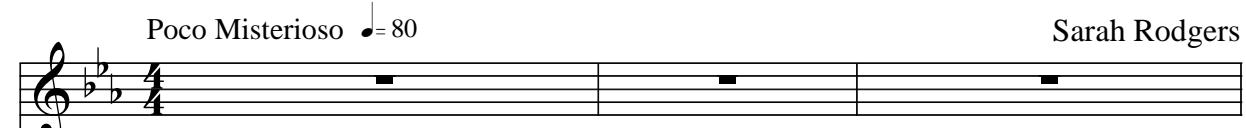
# Song of Caedmon

A setting of the Early English poem known as the  
Dream of the Rood attributed to Caedmon and Hilda of Whitby

Poco Misterioso  $\text{♩} = 80$

Sarah Rodgers

Soprano



Double Bass 1

**p** *ben legato*

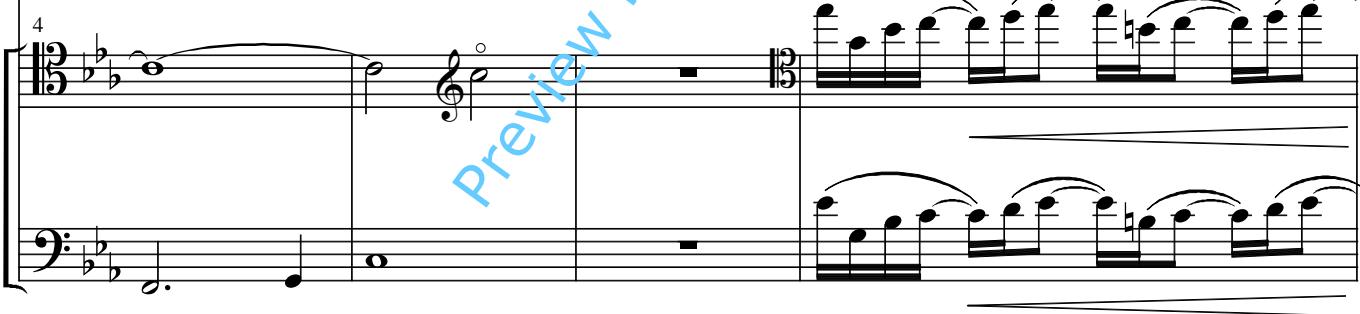
Double Bass 2

**p** *ben legato*

4



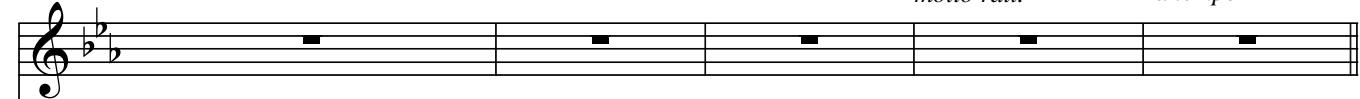
4



8

*molto rall.*

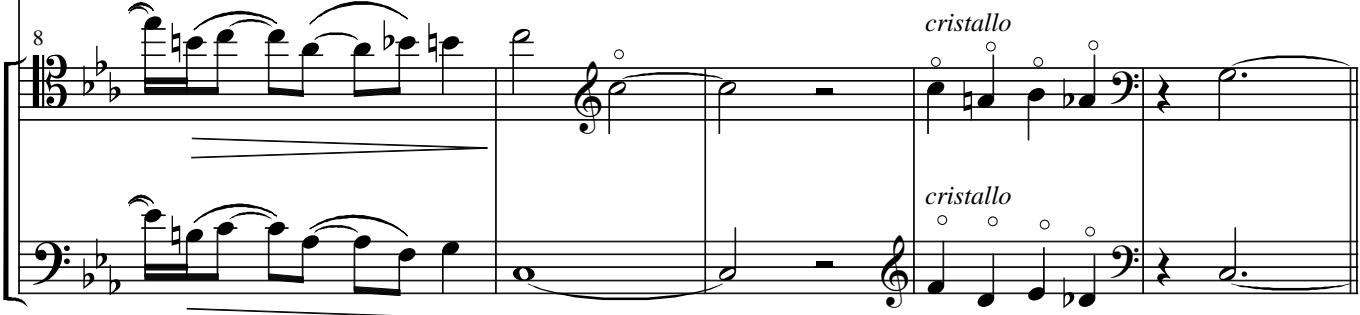
*a tempo*



8

*cristallo*

*cristallo*



A

13      *mp* Hear me! When night was dark and  
 13      *l.h. pizz.*  
 l.h. pizz.

17 deep, And world - ly voi - ces still'd, I  
 17      *gliss.*  
*gliss.*

20 dream'd the dream of dreams. Hear me!  
 20

B

24 *mf* *corrente*  
*arco*  
*mf* *pizz.* *corrente*

The musical score consists of two vocal parts, A and B, and a piano part. Part A begins at measure 13 with a melodic line in the soprano range, accompanied by piano basso continuo lines with 'l.h. pizz.' markings. The lyrics 'Hear me!' and 'When night was dark and' are followed by a piano dynamic 'gliss.'. Part A continues through measures 17 and 20, with lyrics 'deep,' 'And world - ly voi - ces still'd, I', 'dream'd the dream of dreams.', and 'Hear me!', each preceded by a piano 'gliss.' Part B begins at measure 24 with a piano dynamic 'mf' and 'corrente' markings. The piano part features a continuous eighth-note pattern in the basso continuo line. The vocal part B starts with 'mf' and 'pizz.' markings, followed by 'corrente' markings. The score is in common time, with a key signature of one flat. Measure numbers 13, 17, 20, and 24 are indicated above the staves.

28

*mf* I saw the Tree, Lift - ed up, Bath'd in light, Bright

28 3 *gliss.* *mp*

*mp*

32 beam of wood, Bold bea - con drench'd in gold; And

32

35 fie - ry gems its foot a - blaze While fur - ther flam - ing five, flar'd Where its

35

37 branch - es form'd a cross. Hear me! C *f* An - gels in hea - ven - ly

37 *f ampio* *gliss.* *f ampio*

41 host Held it for - e - ver won - drous in their gaze. 3

41

44 All saints, all mor - tal men and all cre - a - tion stood

44 arco trem.  
arco pizz. pizz. arco

47 shin - ing fac'd in awe!

47 trem.

50 molto rall. a tempo 3  
Mar - vel - lous, Tri - um - phant Tree! Here me!

50 3 3

D

53

53

pizz.  
mp

55

*mf* I, all un - worth - y, fal - len short,

55

*arco*

57

I saw the Tree of Glo - ry, Shin - - - ing,

57

59

stream - - - ing, gol - den gleam - ing,

59

61

Glit - ter - ing gems,

61

a - bun - - - dant teem - - ing, Ma -

E

63

jes - - tic for its Ma - ker wrought.

63

sfzp

sfzp

67 *frizzante*

And yet, be - neath the gianc - ing gold,

Some an - cient a - go - ny of

67

*sfzp*

*sfzp*

*sfzp*

*sfzp*

70

old Forc'd drops of blood To sweat u - pon this Rood.

70

*sfzp*

*gliss.*

74 F  
 Hear me! I trem - ble to see it gut - ter and flick - er, Daz - zle and dar - ken,  
**p**

74  
*trem. sul ponticello*  
**pp**  
**p**

78  
 All drench'd and drip - ping, This time, in gold, that time, in blood.  
*naturale*

81 *legato*  
 All ring - led, spil - ling. **mf** I

81 3  
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84 G  
 lay there for an age, wrapp'd in sor - row At this vis - ion of the

84 3  
**mp** *legato con amore*

**mp** *legato con amore*

87

Heal-er's Tree.  
Then through the griev-ing sil-ence,  
I heard it speak these words.

87

90

H  
*poco meno mosso  
speranzoso*

90

95

95

*f*

100

100

*p*  
*f*

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J *amabile*

106 Long years a - go, Still now I re - call The wood where I stood Proud,

106 *mf*

111 sky - strain - ing, tall. And the hands that laid hold, Chopp'd my

111

115 *cresc. poco a poco*

roots from my trunk, Fix'd my limbs in a cross, Shap'd a sym - bol of shame, Set me high on a hill

115 *f*

120 To kill and to maim, Their foes and their fel-ons To pun - ish and blame.

120

K

125

Then came the day when the

*mf*

125

5

*mf*

*mf*

130

King of Hea - ven Came my way to climb up - on me.

130

Ea - ger to make me his mount, I dare not count The cost to re-fuse him. Nor

133 *invadente cresc. poco a poco*

break, nor bend a - side But let him ride To pay his ran -

137

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141

som.

**ff**

**ff**

**ff**

L

**mp**

**p**

**p**

Ground  
shud - der,

**mf**

Earth shake, rais'd Rood Stand firm, And  
**f**

take The Lord of life in - to your arms.

**ff**

**ff**

**ff**

156 M *teneramente*

156 *mp espressivo*

*mp espressivo*

162 *teneramente*

*mp* They drove me through with nails: I bear the wounds.

166 They made me share his a - go - ny: I bear the wounds.

170 They shroud - ed us in shade: I bear the wounds.

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174

They forc'd - his death up - on me: Christ on the Rood.

174

178 N

*mf*

178

*mf*

183

God yield-ed to man As they lift-ed him down.

183

*mp*

188

I, blood - soak'd and shaft - wound-ed As they rais'd him

188

*mf*

*mf*

192

from the rack, **f** Stood, one of three, As they laid him

192

**f**

198 *poco rall.*

tempo libre

O *quasi recitativo*

in a tomb: Sun-set song, sad se-pul-chre.

198

**p**

**p**

**p**

204

**p** As Christ grew cold They

204

**pp**

**p**

209 < *molto* >

cut me down And dug me deep be - beneath the

209

*pizz.*

215    P *a tempo*

ground.    f But faith - ful friends who lov'd the

215    f

220    Lord De - nied the earth to keep me bound.

220

226    Q

mf So deck'd they me with trea - sure trove All gleam - ing gold and sil - ver

231    mf

*cresc. poco a poco*

235

round.

Aah -

Aah -

235

Glo -

ry

240

Tree!

*ff*

244

*p sul tasto*

*p sul tasto*

249

252

252

253

254

255

256

257

poco rall.

*pp* Hear me! I *mp*

*p* (naturale)

258

259

260

261

262

*s* a tempo legato

lay there for an age, rapt in won-der At this daz-zling vis-ion of the

con amore

*p* con amore (naturale)

263

264

265

semper cresc.

Heal-er's Tree. Cheer - ful heart Spi - rit high Cour - age keen:

268

Rich Rood Heart's de - sire Hence for - ward hope Bright bles - sing

268

Bliss and joy

270

272

Tri - umph - ant Tree Dream of

272

276

dreams. Hear me! Hear me! Hear me!

276

p p pp pp

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