

# NORTHERN STAR

Composed for a cappella TTBB Choir

2010

*Lydia Jane Pugh*

# NORTHERN STAR

Finalist for the Australian Boys Choir Choral Composing Competition (2014)

When I am lonely, when I am tearful,  
I tilt my head towards the sky, watch the nightscape pass me by.  
I feel your warmth, I feel your glow,  
I feel your pulse beat proud and strong, I can feel your heart in mine.

Storms may divide us. The skies align us.  
I may be lost in the darkness all alone,  
But you will save me - only you can save me,  
My darling Northern Star, you will guide me home.

So when you're feeling lonely, or lost or broken,  
Just know that I am here for you as you're always there for me.  
I'm bound towards you, my Northern beauty!  
Keep shining brightly wherever you are.

My Northern Star, you will guide me safely home.  
My Star, My Northern Star,  
Guide me home.

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Northern Star was written during my time living in the north of England, in the city of Leeds. At the time I was living alone, and often found myself feeling a little lonely in my tiny flat, and greatly missing my home island, particularly the crystal clear skies at night. Inspired by the knowledge that the stars are always there, even when they are not visible, I wrote this piece about a guiding light (like the north star) that is always present, although not always seen, that is there to guide you home should you find yourself lost or lonely. The text is purposefully ambiguous to possibly be talking about a person, or an object, or force like fate, as people find hope and comfort in many different ways.

This piece was selected as a finalist for the Australian Boys Choir Choral Composing Competition in 2014, receiving its premiere by the Australian Boys Vocal Consort at the Melbourne Recital Centre, in Melbourne, Australia. It was subsequently recorded and released on their 2015 album 'Dreams and Desires'

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# Northern Star

Words and Music by  
Lydia Jane Pugh

$\text{♩} = 65$

TENOR *p*  
When I am lone-ly, — when I am tear-ful, —

BARITONE *pp*  
Lu lu — lu lu, lu lu — lu lu, lu lu — lu lu lu lu — lu lu

BASS *pp*  
Ooh — Ooh —

Rehearsal Piano

5

T.  
I tilt my head to-wards the sky, — watch the night-scape pass me by. I feel your warmth —

Bar.  
lu — lu — watch the night go by. Lu lu — lu lu

B.  
Ooh watch the night go by. Ooh —

Pno.

8

T. I feel your glow\_\_\_\_\_ I feel your pulse beat proud and strong, I can feel your heart in

Bar. lu lu\_\_ lu lu lu lu\_\_ lu\_\_\_\_\_ Proud and strong. And though

B. Proud and strong, you're

Pno.

11

T. mine,\_\_\_\_\_ in mine I may be lost\_ inthedark-ness Oh

T. mine. The skies a-lign us. Lost inthedark all a-lone

Bar. storms may di-vide us, The skies a-lign us. Lost inthe dark\_\_\_\_\_ a-lone

B. mine,\_\_\_\_\_ mine,\_\_\_\_\_ Oh\_\_\_\_\_ and you a-

Pno.

rall. . . . .

15

T. On - ly you can save me, my darl - ing north - ern star! My

T. Oh Save me Dar - ling north - ern star! So

Bar. But you will save me, on - ly you can save me. Dar - ling north - ern star! Oh

B. lone can save me Darl - ing north - ern star! You will guide me

Pno.

19

♩ = 58 (Broader)

T. star! Or lost or bro - ken just know that I am here for

T. when you're feel - ing lone - ly or lost or bro - ken just know that I am here for

Bar. when you're feel - ing lone - ly or lost or bro - ken Oh, oh,

B. home. Oh Oh

Pno.

22

divisi. *ff*

T. you as you're al - ways there for me. My north-ern beauty!

T. you as you're al - ways there for me. I'm bound to-wards you My north-ern beauty!

Bar. you are al - ways there for me. I'm bound to-wards you My north-ern beauty!

B. You are there for me. Oh, My north-ern beauty!

Pno.

25

*mf* unis. *mp*

T. Keep shin-ing bright Keep shin-ing bright shin - ing,

T. Keep shin-ing bright - ly where - ev - er, where - ev - er you are.

Bar. keep shin - ing, keep shin - ing bright. Ooh

B. Keep shin - ing bright. Ooh

Pno.

28

T. shin-ing bright, shin - ing bright star\_\_\_\_\_ my north-ern

T. *mp* Shin-ing bright\_\_\_\_\_ My north-ern star\_\_\_\_\_ my north-ern star\_\_\_\_\_

Bar. *mp* Ooh\_\_\_\_\_ lu lu\_\_ lu lu, lu lu\_\_ lu lu\_

B. Ooh\_\_\_\_\_ oh,

Pno.

31

T. star\_\_\_\_\_ my star\_\_\_\_\_

T. Lu lu\_\_ lu lu, lu lu\_\_ lu lu, My north-ern star\_\_\_\_\_

Bar. Ah\_\_\_\_\_ Lu lu\_\_ lu lu,

B. you will guide me safe - ly home my north - ern star\_\_\_\_\_

Pno.

**molto rit.**

34

T. *pp*  
my north-ern star guide me home

T. *pp* *divisi.*  
my star will guide me home, guide me home

Bar. *pp*  
lu lu lu lu, Guide me, Guide me home

B. *pp* *divisi.*  
Guide me home, guide me home

Pno.