

# The Arrow and the Song

for SAB choir a cappella

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882)

Wilbur Skeels (2004)

**Soprano**  
*mf*  
I shot an ar - row in - to the air, it fell to earth I

**Alto**  
*mf*  
I shot an ar - row in - to the air, it fell to earth I

**Baritone**  
*mf*  
I shot an ar - row in - to the air, it fell to earth I

4 *crescendo e poco accelerando*  
know not where; for so swift-ly it flew, so swift-ly it flew, so swift-ly it flew, so  
know not where; for so swift - ly, swift - ly, swift - ly,  
know not where; for so swift - ly, swift - ly, swift - ly,

8 *f* *decrescendo e ritardando*  
swift - ly it flew for, so swift-ly it flew, the sight, the sight could not fol - low,  
swift - ly it flew for, so swift-ly it flew, the sight, the sight could not fol - low,  
swift - ly, for so swift-ly it flew, the sight, the sight could not fol - low,

13 *mp* *p*  
fol-low it in its flight. — It  
fol-low it in its flight. — *p* I breathed a song to the air, it  
fol-low it in its flight. — *mp* *mp* (Melody) I breathed a song — in - to the air, it

17 *crescendo e poco accelerando*

fell to earth I knew not where; for who has sight so keen and strong, so

*crescendo e poco accelerando*

fell to earth I knew not where; for who has sight so keen and strong, so

*crescendo e poco accelerando*

fell to earth I knew not where; for who has the sight so keen and strong, so

21 *mf*

keen and strong, so keen and strong, keen and strong,

*mf* [*ad lib.*]

keen and strong, so keen and strong, [for who has the sight so] keen and strong,

*f*

keen and strong, so keen and strong, for who has the sight so keen and strong,

25 *decrescendo e ritardando* *p*

that can fol - low the flight of song? —

*decrescendo e ritardando* *p*

that it can fol - low, fol - low the flight of song? —

*decrescendo e ritardando* *mp*

that it can fol - low, fol - low the flight of song? —

**B** *Meno mosso*

29 *mf* *cresc.*

Long, long af - ter - ward in an oak I found the ar - row still un-broke; and the

*mf* *cresc.*

Long, long af - ter - ward in an oak I found the ar - row still un-broke; and the

*mf* *cresc.*

Long, long af - ter - ward in an oak I found the ar - row still un-broke; and the