

PERUSAL COPY - DO NOT DUPLICATE

GREG BARTHOLOMEW

PRAIRIE SPRING

a setting for SAB choir
of the poem by Willa Cather
with optional piano accompaniment



BURKE & BAGLEY

Duration: ca. 2'45"

PRAIRIE SPRING

a setting for SAB choir
of the poem by Willa Cather
with optional piano accompaniment

Evening and the flat land,
Rich and sombre and always silent;
The miles of fresh-plowed soil,
Heavy and black, full of strength and harshness;
The growing wheat, the growing weeds,
The toiling horses, the tired men;
The long empty roads,
Sullen fires of sunset, fading,
The eternal, unresponsive sky.

Against all this, Youth,
Flaming like the wild roses,
Singing like the larks over the plowed fields,
Flashing like a star out of the twilight;
Youth with its insupportable sweetness,
Its fierce necessity, Its sharp desire,
Singing and singing,
Out of the lips of silence,
Out of the earthy dusk.

Willa Cather (1873-1947) was an American writer best known for her novels of frontier life on the Great Plains. *Prairie Spring* was first published in 1913 as the prologue to the novel *O Pioneers!*

For information about the composer, visit gregbartholomew.com.

If you perform this work in public, please send a PDF of the concert program to office@burkeandbagley.com.

BURKE & BAGLEY

www.burkeandbagley.com

Email: office@burkeandbagley.com

Prairie Spring

Willa Cather
(1873-1947)

Greg Bartholomew
(b. 1957)

Andantino ca. ♩ = 72

Piano (optional)

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5 *p*

Eve - ning and the flat land, — Rich and som - bre and

p

Eve - ning and the flat land, — Rich and som - bre and

p

Eve - ning and the flat land, — Rich and som - bre and

Prairie Spring

10

mp

al-ways si - lent; The miles of fresh-plowed soil, Hea-vy and black, full of

mp

al-ways si - lent; The miles of fresh-plowed soil, Hea-vy and black, full of

mp

al-ways si - lent; The miles of fresh-plowed soil, Hea-vy and black, full of

17

strength and harsh - ness; — The grow-ing wheat, the grow-ing weeds,

strength and harsh - ness; — The grow-ing wheat, the grow-ing weeds,

strength and harsh - ness; — The grow-ing wheat, the grow-ing weeds,

Prairie Spring

24

The toil - ing hor - ses, the tir - ed men; The long emp - ty roads, Sul - len

The toil - ing hor - ses, the tir - ed men; The long emp - ty roads, Sul - len

The toil - ing hor - ses, the tir - ed men; The long emp - ty roads, Sul - len

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30

fires of sun - set, fad - ing, The e - ter - nal, un - re - spon - sive sky. A -

fires of sun - set, fad - ing, The e - ter - nal, un - re - spon - sive sky. A -

fires of sun - set, fad - ing, The e - ter - nal, un - re - spon - sive sky. A -

Prairie Spring

Moderato con moto ca. ♩ = 84

36 *mf*

gainst all this, Youth, Flam-ing like the wild_ ros - es, Sing-ing like the larks_

gainst all this, Youth, Flam-ing like the wild_ ros - es,

gainst all this, Youth, Flam-ing like the wild_ ros - es,

Moderato con moto ca. ♩ = 84

41 *mf*

Flash-ing like a star, a star out of the twi -

O-ver the plowed fields, Flash-ing like a star, a

O-ver the plowed fields, Flash-ing like a star, a

Prairie Spring

45

light; a star; Youth with its
star out of the twi - light; a star out of the twi - light; Youth with its
star out of the twi - light; a star of twi - light; Youth with its

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50

in-sup-port-a-ble sweet-ness, Youth,
in-sup-port-a-ble sweet-ness, With its fierce ne-ces-si-ty,
in-sup-port-a-ble sweet-ness, with its sweet-ness, Youth,

Prairie Spring

55 *mf* *p* *mf*

Youth, Sing-ing and_ sing - ing, Sing-ing

Youth, Sing-ing and_ sing - ing, Sing-ing

with its sharp de- sire, Sing-ing and_ sing-ing and_ sing-ing and_ Sing-ing

mf *pizzicato*

60 *rit.* *f* *mp* *p* *mf*

and_ sing-ing, Out of the lips of si-lence, Out of the earth-y dusk.

and sing-ing, Out of the lips of si-lence, Out of the earth-y dusk.

and_ sing, ing, Out of the lips of si-lence, Out of the earth-y dusk.

rit. *f* *mp* *p* *mf*

Slower ca. ♩ = 60 Even slower ca. ♩ = 50