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### **INSTRUMENTATION**

Oboe Soprano Piano

Duration: c. 4'

#### PERFORMANCE NOTES

Sprechgesang = speech-song
This is to be half-spoken, half-sung, *quasi recitando*.
The music notation is represented by an X through the stem of the note.



#### **PROGRAM NOTES**

The text is based on the poem, "The First Chrismas Without Her," by Lois Duncan. This poem captures the emotions of the poet on the first Christmas after the mysterious murder of her daughter, Kaitlyn Arquette. It brings hope and comfort to all who have grieved a tragic loss.

Many thanks to the Duncan family for the rights to publish this poem in honor of their mother.

This poem can be found in Lois Duncan's book, Seasons of the Heart.

Some pages are missing to protect copyright.

## The First Christmas Without Her

When I was young they used to tell About a star that shone one night. It led the Shepherds from their fields And filled their paths with crystal light.

I loved the tale when I was small,
But now I am a woman grown.
I have walked far on lonely trails
And groped through darkness of my own.

I've learned, I hope to brave the dark, Yet sometimes still, when God seems far -The house is still, the world's asleep, And night is long and cold and deep -I like to think about the star.

~Lois Duncan~

from Seasons of the Heart, "Winter"

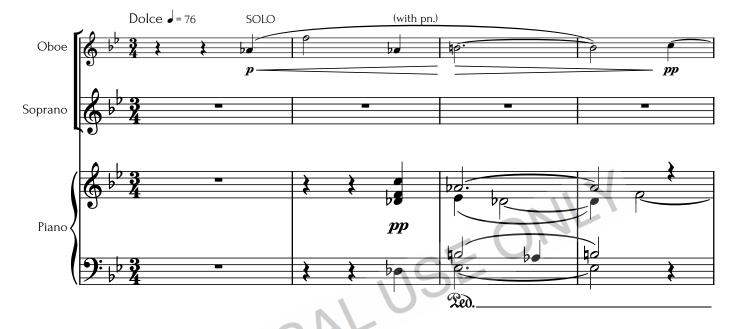
Dedicated to the memory of Lois Duncan and daughter Kaitlyn

I Think About the Star

"THE FIRST CHRISTMAS WITHOUT HER"

WORDS: LOIS DUNCAN Adapted by Composer

JUDITH MARKOVICH





















# Judith Pauley Markovich, Composer

ORCHESTRAL WORKS	
<b>WWGH1015WE WILL GLORIFY HIM</b> SA Choir (Spoken and Sung) Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Cello, Contrabass, 2 Snares	HITD1017—HALLELUJAH IN THE DARKNESS Flutes (2), Oboes (2), Bb Clarinets (2), Bassoon, Harp Percussion, Piano, Electric Guitar, Electric Bass, SATB Chorus, Strings Chorus and Piano Reduction available
EM1018—EMERGENCE Full Orchestra and Fire Drum	<b>LAM1019—THE LAMB</b> Chamber Orchestra
CRSC1028—CORNERSTONE CONCERTO  Viola and Orchestra	
CHAMBER WORKS	
TLG1013—THE LOOKING GLASS: A Contemporary Dance Suite Chamber Ensemble (13): Woodwind Quintet plus Trumpet, Timpani, Djembe, Congas, Drum Set, Tubular Bells, String Bass	BTNW1018—BEYOND THE NOBLE WAY Brass Quintet
<b>LAM1019—LAMENT</b> Piano Quintet and Empty Chair	TM1020—THREE MINIATURES  Viola Solo
TDD1021—THE DABBLING DUCK English Horn and Cello Arranged for: Viola and Cello   English Horn and Bassoon   Clarinet and Bassoon   Two Cellos   Clarinet and Cello	REM1022—REMEMBER For: Viola, Piano, Chimes   Clarinet, Piano, Chimes   English Horn, Piano, Chimes   Piano, Chimes
CRSS1023—CORNERSTONE SONATA  Viola and Piano  CRSS1023cp Clarinet (A or Bb) and Piano	CADG1024 – CAME A DROP GENTLY  Mezzo-Soprano, Tenor, English Horn, Piano    Mezzo-Soprano, Tenor, Clarinet (A), Piano    Mezzo, Tenor, Viola, Piano   Mezzo-Soprano, Tenor, Cello, Piano
ITAS1025—I THINK ABOUT A STAR Oboe, High Soprano, and Piano	CFW1026—A CALL FROM THE WOODS  Viola Solo
RP1040—RESTING PLACE For Classical Guitar	VLKS1029—VOICES LONG KEPT SILENT Solo Cello
DW1042—DEEP WITHIN Solo Piano	XRS1044—CROSSROADS SONATA NO. 2 Viola and Piano
IF1043-ICE & FURY: A PASSACAGLIA Solo Violin	IF1043a–ICE & FURY: A PASSACAGLIA Solo Viola IF1043a Solo Cello
WWF1047–WHEN WORDS FAIL Viola and Harp   Clarinet and Harp Viola and Piano   Clarinet and Piano Viola and Strings   Clarinet and Strings	<b>OMS1049–<i>Oh my son</i></b> Tenor, Violin, Clarinet, Timpani, Piano

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