

For Clara Osowski

We Will

Words by Chekhov
from *Uncle Vanya**

Music by
David Evan Thomas

Largo ♩ = 46 *p*

Medium Voice

We will live.

Piano

p *f* *p*

5 *semplice* *riten.*

Let's live a long, long — pro - ces-sion of days, — long eve - nings;

8 *a tempo* *espress.*

— let us en-dure pat - ien - tly the trials that fate will send us; — we will

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12 Pochissimo più mosso ♩ = 52

cresc.

work for oth - ers both now and in old age, not — know - ing peace, and

p *cresc.*

15

f

when our hour — comes, we will die — we will die hum - bly and

8va *mf*

18

riten.

there be - yond the grave we will say that we suf - fered, —

cresc. *f*

a tempo

20 ***ff***

3 — that we cried, — that we were bit-ter, and God will have mer

loco

ff ***sfz*** ***sfz*** ***sfz*** ***sfz*** ***sfz*** ***sfz*** ***sfz***

poco rall.

23

- cy — on us.

poco f

8va

Poco più mosso ♩ = 56

26

And you and I will

p ***pp*** ***p***

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

And.

*

28

see a bright, beau-ti-ful, grace - ful life,

pp *p*

8va *8va*

Leg. *

31

we will re - jice and look back at our pres - ent

cresc.

Leg. *

molto riten.

a tempo

33

woes with ten - der - ness, with a smile - and

mf

8va

Leg. *

35 *rallentando*

rest. We will rest! We will

dim.

38 **Tempo II** ♩ = 52 *p* *mp*

rest. We will

40

hear the an - gels, see dia - monds in the night sky,

42

we will see how all earth - ly e - vil,

p

44

allargando

all our suff - 'ring will be drowned in

46

Sostenuto
p

mer - cy, which fills the whole

pp *tranquillo*

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Program Note

In the final scene of Anton Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*, Vanya has despaired. His niece, Sonya, pities him, comforts him, and offers a way forward. This scene is the culmination of the 2021 Japanese film *Drive My Car*, in which Sonya is played by a deaf mute who signs the words. The silence of that performance allowed me to imagine mezzo-soprano Clara Osowski singing this foundational text. The song is dedicated to Ms. Osowski, who gave the premiere in St. Paul's Landmark Center with pianist Casey Rafn in May 2023.