

ED HUGHES

Sun, New Moon and Women Shouting (1995)  
(text by Tom Lowenstein)

for

2 Sopranos, Alto, Tenor, Baritone, Bass

or chorus with solos

commissioned by Bromsgrove Concerts  
for *I Fagiolini* with funds from West Midlands Arts

## GLOSSARY

Spelling is in standard Inupiaq (north Alaskan Inuit) but with diacritical marks omitted. The pronunciation of most vowels and consonants is equivalent to the English. But:

### *Vowels*

Short *a* is like *u* in 'cut'

Short *i* is like *i* in 'pin'

Short *u* is like *oo* in 'soot'

Short *u* before *q* or medial *g* is like *o* in 'hot'

Short *i* before *q* or medial *g* is like *e* in 'wet'

Long *a* as in 'aana' is like short *a* but lengthened and stressed

Long *i* as in 'ii' is like short *i* but lengthened and stressed

Long *u*, as in 'avataliguuvaq', is like short *u* but lengthened and stressed.

All diphthongs receive stress, as in *aana*, *inua*, *puiya*, *umialik*.

### *Consonants*

*q* is a uvular stop like a *k* pronounced at the back of the throat. The medial *g*, as in 'Tikigaq', is pronounced like a French *r*.

iglu (igloo)	semi-subterranean winter house
inua (in-yoo-u)	1) resident spirit 2) 'human' component in animal soul structure
katak (kutuk)	iglu entrance-hole
qalgi (kul-gi)	ceremonial house
qattaq (kuttuk)	waterpot
uiluaqtaq (weel-yawk-tuk)	literally: 'woman who won't take a husband'
umialik (oomaylik)	male or female skinboat owner

(from Tom Lowenstein, *Ancient Land: Sacred Whale*, Bloomsbury 1993)

In the North Alaskan wilderness for over fifteen hundred years, the people of Tikigaq evolved an intricate system of rites to accompany their hunting. The poet Tom Lowenstein captured the astonishingly rich detail of ancient life in his book 'Ancient Life, Sacred Whale' (Bloomsbury, 1993). *Sun, New Moon and Women Shouting* is a setting for six solo voices of a poetic sequence from that book concerning the cataclysmic moment after the winter solstice when the people greet the first sunrise of the year. In this ritual the men are joined by the women on the roofs of their iglus and compete to 'catch' the sun. The music reflects the narrative structure of the verse, the arrival of the women with their children, and the recounting of myths by the storytellers.

Words:  
TOM LOWENSTEIN

# Sun, New Moon and Women Shouting

Music:  
ED HUGHES

Part I. Winter.

*ff* *f* *ff* *p* *mp*

*ff* *f* *mf* *f* *mp*

*ff* *f* *mf* *f* *mp*

*ff* *f* *mf* *f* *mp*

*ff* *f* *mf* *f* *mp*

*ff* *f* *mf* *f* *mp*

And the sun sis-ter's pre-sence burns sul-len-ly on

And the sun sis-ter's pre-sence burns sul-len-ly on

And the sun sis-ter's pre-sence burns sul-len-ly on

And the sun sis-ter's pre-sence burns sul-len-ly on

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And the sun sis-ter's pre-sence burns sul-len-ly on

12 *f* *ff* *mp* *f* *p*

*f* *ff* *mp* *f* *p*

*f* *ff* *mp* *f* *p*

*f* *ff* *mp* *f*

*f* *ff* *mp* *f*

*f* *ff* *mp* *f*

Ti-ki-gaq. Here she is a-gain in win-ter, clam-ber-ing the sea ice, as she

Ti-ki-gaq. Here she is a-gain in win-ter, clam-ber-ing the sea ice, as she

Ti-ki-gaq. Here she is a-gain in win-ter clam-ber-ing the sea ice, as

Ti-ki-gaq. Here she is a-gain in win-ter clam-ber-ing the sea ice, as

Ti-ki-gaq. Here she is a-gain in win-ter clam-ber-ing the sea ice as

Ti-ki-gaq. Here she is a-gain in win-ter clam-ber-ing the sea ice as

22 *mf* *fff*

S. 1 climbed in - to the qal-gi, mu-ti - la - ted, with her blood and fae - ces.

S. 2 *f* *fff*  
climbed in to the qal-gi, mu-ti - la - ted, with her blood and fae - ces.

A. *mp* *fff*  
she climbed in to the qal-gi, mu-ti - la - ted, with her blood and fae - ces.

T. *p* *fff*  
she climbed in to the qal-gi, mu - ti - la - ted, with her blood and fae - ces.

Bar. *p* *fff*  
she climbed in to the qal-gi, mu - ti - la - ted, with her blood and fae - ces.

B. *p* *fff*  
she climbed in to the qal-gi, mu - ti - la - ted, with her blood and fae - ces.

33

S. 1 *f*  
the peo ple

S. 2 *[SOLO]* *poco f* *f [TUTTI]*  
That's A - li nnaq's sis - ter sho-wing us her wounds,' the peo

A. *f*  
the peo ple

T. *mp* *f*  
That's A - li-nnaq's sis-ter show-ing us her wounds, show-ing us herwounds, the peo ple

Bar. *mp* *f*  
That's A - li-nnaq's sis-ter show-ing us her wounds, show-ing us herwounds, the peo ple

B. *mp*  
That's A - li-nnaq's sis-ter show-ing us her wounds, show-ing us herwounds,

40

S. 1 *mp*  
say as she glares at the vil-lage a-cross the sea-ice.

S. 2 *ff* *mp*  
- ple say, the peo-ple say,

A. *mp* *p*  
say as she glares at the vi-llage a-cross the sea ice. Um-ia-likes who have come to greet the sun stand si-lent.

T. *mp* *p*  
say as she glares at the vi-llage a-cross the sea ice. Um-ia-likes who have come to greet the sun stand si-lent.

Bar. *mp* *p*  
say as she glares at the vi-llage a-cross the sea ice. Um-ia-likes who have come to greet the sun stand si-lent.

B. *p*  
Um-ia-likes who have come to greet the sun stand si-lent.

45

S. 1 *mp* *mf*  
Then wo-men who have gi-ven bith come out of their i-glus. They stand on thePoint with their ba - bies and

S. 2 *mp* *mf*  
Then wo-men who have gi-ven birth come out of their i-glus. They stand on thePoint with their ba - bies and

A. *mp* *mf*  
Then wo-men who have gi-ven birth come out of their i-glus. They stand on thePoint with their ba - bies and

T. *mp* *mf*  
Then wo-men who have gi-ven birth come out of their i-glus. They stand on the Point with their

Bar. *mf*  
They stand on the Point with their

B. *mf*  
They stand on the Point with their

53

S. 1 *f* *mf* *ff*  
 chil - dren. When they see the sun-rise, they hold up their ba bies and make their legs run, in -

S. 2 *f* *mf* *ff*  
 chil - dren. When they see the sun-rise, they hold up their ba bies and make their legs run, in -

A. *f* *mf* *ff*  
 chil - dren. When they see the sun-rise, they hold up their ba bies and make their legs run, in -

T. *f* *mf* *ff*  
 ba bies and chil-dren. When they see the sun-rise, they hold up their ba bies and make their legs run, in -

Bar. *f* *ff*  
 ba bies and chil-dren. in -

B. *f* *ff*  
 ba bies and chil-dren. in -

64

S. 1 *mp*  
 vo - king the sun's e-ner-gy, as though ca - lling to their uil-uaq-taq sis - ter,

S. 2 *mp*  
 vo - king the sun's e-ner-gy, as though ca - lling to their uil-uaq-taq sis - ter,

A. *mp*  
 vo - ing the sun's e-ner-gy, as though ca - lling to their uil-uaq-taq sis - ter,

T. *mp*  
 vo - king the sun's e-ner-gy, as though ca - lling to their uil-uaq-taq sis - ter,

Bar. *mp*  
 vo - king the sun's e-ner-gy,

B. *mp*  
 vo - king the sun's e-ner-gy,

78 *f* [SOLO] *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

S. 1 'Look! we too are wo-men.' Ah \_\_\_\_\_ 'Look! We too are wo-men! Look!\_

S. 2 *f* [SOLO] *mp* *f*  
'Look! We too are wo-men.' [SOLO] Ah \_\_\_\_\_ 'Look!\_

A. *f* *mp* *f*  
Look!\_ we too are wom-men! Look!

T.

Bar.

B.

86 *ff* *mf*

S. 1 \_\_\_\_\_ we too \_\_\_\_\_ are wo-men. We have hus - bands! We have

S. 2 *mp* *f* *mf* *f*  
we too are wo-men. Look!\_ We\_ too\_ are wo-men! We too \_\_\_\_\_ are wo -

A. *mf* *mp* *p* *mf*  
\_\_\_\_\_ we too are wom-men! Ah \_\_\_\_\_ Ah\_

T.

Bar.

B.

92 *f* *p* *f*

S. 1  
hus - bands! We have hus - bands! These are our

S. 2  
*mp* *f* *f*  
- men! We too are wo - men! These are our chil dren!

A.  
*f* *p* *f*  
Ah Ah We too are wo - men! We have hus - bands!

T.

Bar.

B.

96 *mp* *mf* *f* *mf* *ff* *mf* *p* *p* *p*

S. 1  
chil - dren These are our chil - dren! These

S. 2  
These are our chil - dren! These are our chil - dren! These are our chil -

A.  
We have hus - bands! We have hus - bands! We have hus - bands!

T.  
*p*  
Wo - men lift their chil - dren!

Bar.  
*p*  
Wo - men lift their chil - dren!

B.  
*p*  
Wo - men lift their chil - dren!

99

S. 1  
are our chil - dren!

S. 2  
- - dren! We have hus - bands! We have hus

A.  
We have hus - bands! These are our

T.  
Point their legs to day - light! The sun will make them strong

Bar.  
Point their legs to day - light! The sun will make them strong

B.  
Point their legs to day - light! the sun will make them strong

104 *ff* [TUTTI] *mp*

S. 1  
We have hus - bands!' Wo - men wo - men lift your chil - dren!

S. 2  
bands! These are our chil - dren! Wo - men wo - men lift your chil - dren!

A.  
chil - - - - dren! Wo - men wo - men lift your chil - dren!

T.  
*mf* Fast ru - nners! Good hun - ters! *ff* *mp* Wo - men lift their chil - dren! Point their legs to day - light!

Bar.  
*mf* Fast ru - nners! Good hun - ters! *ff* *mp* Wo - men lift their chil - dren! Point their legs to day - light!

B.  
*mf* Fast ru - nners! Good hun - ters! *ff* *mp* Wo - men lift their chil - dren! Point their legs to day - light!

108

S. 1 *f* Point your legs to day - light! *f* The sun will make them

S. 2 *f* Point your legs to day - light! *f* The sun will make *mf*

A. *f* Point your legs to day - light! *f* The sun will make *mf*

T. *f* Wo - men lift your chil - dren! *mf* The sun

Bar. *f* Wo - men lift your chil - dren! *mf* The sun

B. *f* Wo - men lift your chil - dren! *mf* The sun

111

S. 1 *ff* strong! *pp* Fast ru-nners! Good hun- ters! *pp* Fast ru-nners! Good hun- ters!

S. 2 *ff* — them strong! *pp* Fast ru-nners! Good hun- ters! *pp* Fast ru-nners! Good hun- ters!

A. *ff* — them strong! *pp* Fast ru-nners! Good hun- ters! *pp* Fast ru-nners! Good hun- ters!

T. *ff* will make them strong! *pp* Fast ru-nners! Good hun- ters! *pp* Fast ru-nners! Good hun- ters!

Bar. *ff* will make them strong! *pp* Fast ru-nners! Good hun- ters! *pp* Fast ru-nners! Good hun- ters!

B. *ff* will make them strong! *pp* Fast ru-nners! Good hun- ters! *pp* Fast ru-nners! Good hun- ters!