

# FLOOD

*for two-voice children's choir  
with piano accompaniment*

RUSSELL NADEL

(2008)

*Duration: c. 3'30"*



## **Text:**

by Hithem Shaw,  
4<sup>th</sup>-grade student at Daniels Run Elementary School, Fairfax County, VA\*

Rain... Rain...

Rain is falling, falling, falling  
Rain is falling over top

Drip, drop, drip, drop

Water level going up  
Streets flooding  
Water flowing  
People running

Drip, drop, drip, drop

Water flowing into houses  
Over cars and over roofs  
People swimming on the surface

Drip, drop, drip, drop

Rain is falling, falling, falling  
Rain is falling over top.

## **Program Notes:**

*Flood* was commissioned by Caroline Crocker (née Desmond) and the Treble Singers of the Fairfax Choral Society under the auspices of the FCS's Fourth Annual Poetry of Music Fine Arts Project. I was asked to select one of dozens of original poems written by Daniels Run Elementary School's fourth-grade students and to set it to music. I selected Hithem Shaw's affecting poem "Flood." In my setting, I used the highest register of the piano keyboard and nearly continuous sixteenth and 32<sup>nd</sup> notes to evoke the sound of a constant rain shower, which only truly clears at the end of the work. I also used traditional word-painting techniques to depict the ascending "water level going up" lines and descending "drip, drop" lines. This work is dedicated to Maestra Caroline Crocker and the Youth Choruses of the Fairfax Choral Society. The FCS Treble Singers premiered *Flood* on March 13, 2008, in Annandale, VA.

— *Russell Nadel*  
*January 2008*

# FLOOD

Hithem Shaw

RUSSELL NADEL

**Lento** (♩ = 54)

VOICE 1

VOICE 2

PIANO

*pp*

Rain.....

*p legato*

*pp*

*mp*

8<sup>va</sup>

4

V.1

Rain.....

V.2

*pp*

Rain.....

Rain.....

8<sup>va</sup>

8<sup>vb</sup>

8<sup>va</sup>

8<sup>vb</sup>

7

V.1

*mp*

Rain is fal - ling, fal - ling, fal - ling,

V.2

*mp*

Rain is fal - ling, fal - ling, Rain is fal - ling

8<sup>va</sup>

8<sup>vb</sup>

*p*

10

V.1 Rain is fal - ling, fal - ling, fal - ling o - ver top

V.2 o - ver top

13

V.1 *p* Drip, drop, drip, drop Drip, drop, drip, drop *pp* Drip, drop

V.2 *p* Drip, drop, drip, drop Drip, drop, drip, drop *pp* Drip, drop

*rit.*

16

*Più lento* (♩ = 44) *mp* *cresc.*

V.1 Wa-ter le-vel go-ing up, go-ing up, Streets flood-ing, wa-ter flo-wing

V.2 *mp* Wa-ter le-vel go-ing up, go-ing up,