

# I am the grass

Poem, Carl Sandburg, 1918  
Adapted by Andrew Clarkson

Music, Andrew Clarkson  
Spring 2006

*Tenors and Basses*

$\text{♩} = 80$

Pile the bo - dies high at Aus - ter - litz; Pile the bo - dies

*Organ or piano*

8

high at Wa - ter - loo; Pile the bo - dies high at Get - tys - burg;

14

Pile the bo - dies high at Y \_\_\_\_\_ pres and Ver - dun.

*Sopranos and Altos*

Sho \_\_\_ vel them un - der and let me

Pile the bo - dies high at Pass - chen - daele;

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25

work,  
 Sho \_\_\_ vel them un - der and let me work,  
 Pile the bo - dies high at Gal - li - po - li;  
 Pile the bo - dies

30  
 Sho \_\_\_ vel them un - der and let me work,  
 Sho \_\_\_ vel them un \_\_\_ der and let me work,  
 high at Nor - man - dy Pile the bo - dies high at

35  
 I am the grass; I \_\_\_\_\_ co - ver all.  
 I am the grass; I \_\_\_\_\_ co - ver all.

Khe \_\_\_\_\_ sanh and To - bruk.

40

S Pile the bo - dies high at Ki - ga - li;

A Two years, five years, ten years; Pile the bo - dies

T Two years, five \_\_ , ten years \_\_\_\_\_ ; Two years, five

B Sho \_\_ vel them un - der and let me work,

45

A musical score for orchestra and choir, page 10, measures 11-12. The score consists of five staves. The top staff is soprano, followed by three alto staves, then bass and tenor. The music is in common time, with a key signature of one flat. The vocal parts sing lyrics in English, while the instrumental parts provide harmonic support. Measure 11 starts with a rest, followed by a melodic line in the soprano and alto voices. Measure 12 continues with the vocal parts, supported by the instrumental parts.

Sho \_\_\_\_\_ vel and let me work,  
high at Bagh - dad; What,  
years, ten years, and pass - en - gers ask the con - duc - tor: Pile the bo - dies  
Ten years and pass - en - gers ask the con - duc - tor: What,

49

Let \_\_\_\_\_ me work.

what place is this? Where are we now? Where are we now?

high at O - kin - a - wa;

what place is this? Where are we now? Where? Pile the bo - dies

53

Pass - en - gers ask, What place is this? Where are we now?

Pass - en - gers ask, What place is this? Where are we now?

I am the grass; I \_\_\_\_\_

high at Pu - san, at Bas - ra and Sa - ra - je - vo;

57

Where? Where are we? Where are we now?  
Where? Where are we? Where are we now?  
co - ver all. Where are we now? Pile the bo - dies  
Where are we now? Pile the bo - dies

63

Sho \_\_\_\_\_ vel them un - der and let me work,  
Sho \_\_\_\_\_ vel them un - der and let me work,  
high at Aus - ter - litz; Pile the bo - dies high at

Sheet music for measures 68-72. The vocal parts sing "Shovel them under and let me work," followed by "Waterloo; Pile the bodies high at Gettysburg;" The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support.

Sheet music for measures 73-77. The vocal parts continue the lyrics: "un - der and let me work, I am the grass; un - der and let me work, I am the grass; Pile the bo - dies high at Y \_\_\_\_\_ pres and" The piano accompaniment includes a bass line.

Sheet music for measures 78-82. The vocal parts sing "I \_\_\_\_\_ co - ver all \_\_\_\_\_ . I \_\_\_\_\_ co - ver all" followed by "I co - ver all, I co - ver all." The piano accompaniment continues with harmonic support. The bass line is prominent in the piano part.

83

Musical score for system 83:

— . I co - ver all.

all. I co - ver all. I am the

— . I co - ver all. I am the grass,

— . I co - ver all. I am the grass,

The score consists of four staves. The top two staves are in treble clef, and the bottom two are in bass clef. The key signature is three flats. The music includes various note values (eighth and sixteenth notes), rests, and dynamic markings like  $\text{p}$  (piano) and  $\text{f}$  (fortissimo). The lyrics "I cover all." appear twice, followed by "I am the" and then "I am the grass," repeated twice.

88

I am the grass, I am the grass.

grass, I am the grass.

I am the grass.

I am the grass.

The score consists of four staves. The top two staves are in treble clef, and the bottom two are in bass clef. The key signature changes to one flat. The music features sustained notes and eighth-note patterns. The lyrics "I am the grass." are repeated four times.