

THE RAIN

FOR SOLO VOICE

I AM RAIN

THE RAIN OF THE WHITE VALLEY

JARRAD POWELL

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These two songs may be sung separately, or they may be sung together contiguously. If they are sung together it is best if *I am Rain* precedes *the rain of the white valley*.

I am rain

J. Rothenberg*

J. Powell

♩ = c. 40 senza misura, *chant-like, very free*



I am rain_ I am a rain that driz-zles. I was the rain's_ child



the rain comes from the east and driz-zles. I soaked some old men with-out hair.



I was fool-ish some-one else was wise. I was a tree that lost its leaves.



My skin is hard now on-ly some twigs are left for burn-ing.



I am the bed the dead will sleep on. I was the road through the ce-me-ta-ry



no-one could es-cape me. All night long I did not sleep.

*Text from *Praises of the Bantu Kings* by Jerome Rothenberg, from literal translations by Jacques Chiley Chiwale, from *Alcheringa, Issue One*, © 1970 by Jerome Rothenberg. s Used by permission of Jerome Rothenberg. The final line, "all night long I did not sleep" is the opening line from *A Song of Quavering* by J. Rothenberg.

Note: The pitch of the piece may be changed if necessary to accommodate the singer's vocal range. However, the final notes of the piece should feel like they are at the bottom of the singer's range.

the rain of the white valley

W.S. Merwin*

J. Powell

$\text{♩} = \text{c.40}$ senza misura, *freely, espressivo*

The rain of the white val - ley the clear rain the rain

6 hold-ing the whole val-ley while it falls the

10 moun-tain rain the high rain un-to the moun-tain the

14 ma-ny days rain sha-dow-less rain blow - ing from the

17 long eaves to go on fall - ing

*Text from "June Rain" in *The Compass Flower*, copyright © 1977 by W.S. Merwin, permission of the Wylie Agency.

Notes:

- 1) Small note heads indicate ornamental notes, rather than notes of the main melody.
- 2) The pitch of the piece may be changed if necessary to accommodate the singer's vocal range. However, the relative relationship between this piece and *I am rain* should be preserved.