

Diana Burrell

**Three Native American Blessings
(2011)**

for soprano & piano



AS I WALK (Traditional Navajo Prayer)

As I walk, as I walk
The universe is walking with me
In beauty it walks before me
In beauty it walks behind me
In beauty it walks below me
In beauty it walks above me
Beauty is on every side
As I walk, I walk with Beauty.

CHEROKEE PRAYER BLESSING

May the Warm Winds of Heaven
Blow softly upon your house.
May the Great Spirit
Bless all who enter there.
May your Moccasins
Make happy tracks
in many snows,
and may the Rainbow
Always touch your shoulder.

SUN TRACKS (Choctaw)

The Track of the Sun
across the Sky
leaves its shining message,
Illuminating,
Strengthening,
Warming
us who are here,
Showing us we are not alone,
we are yet ALIVE!
And this fire
Our fire
Shall not die!

to Kate - with love

THREE NATIVE AMERICAN BLESSINGS

Diana Burrell
(b.1948)

1. AS I WALK (Traditional Navajo Prayer)

Calm (♩ = c.76)

mp

4 *mp*
As I walk,

8 *mp*
as I walk The u - ni - verse is

11 *p*
walk - ing with me

mp *p*

mf

sub. mp

8va

3 3 3 3

1

15 *mp*

In beau - ty it walks be - fore me

8va

mp

mp

18 *mp*

In beau - - ty it walks

mp

23

be - hind me In beau - ty it walks be - low me

26 **moving forward**

mp

29 **a tempo** *mp*

In beau-ty_____

mf *p* *8va₁*

32

it walks a - bove me

mp *p* *8va*

36 *p*

Beau-ty_____ is on eve-ry side

p *mp* *8vb* *pp* *mp*

40 *mp* **attacca**

As I walk_____ I walk with Beau - ty.

2. CHEROKEE PRAYER BLESSING

Gentle. Simple. (♩ = c.76)
mp

May the Warm Winds of Hea-ven Blow soft - ly up - on your

This system contains the first four measures of the piece. It features a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Gentle. Simple.' with a quarter note equal to approximately 76 beats per minute. The dynamic is mezzo-piano (*mp*). The piano part includes a piano introduction in 4/4 time, which changes to 3/4 time at the start of the vocal line.

house... May the Great Spi-rit bless all who en-ter there.

This system contains measures 5 through 8. The vocal line continues with a melodic line that includes a long note at the end of the phrase. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines in both hands.

mf

mf *mp*

This system contains measures 9 through 11. The piano part features a prominent triplet figure in the right hand, moving from mezzo-forte (*mf*) to mezzo-piano (*mp*). The vocal line is mostly silent in this system.

mp

May your Moc - ca-

This system contains measures 12 through 15. The piano part continues with the triplet figure. The vocal line begins with the words 'May your Moc - ca-'. The system concludes with a final cadence in 3/4 time.

16

sins_ make hap-py tracks in ma-ny snows_ and may the Rain-bow al - ways

20

a little slower

touch your shoul - der.

mf *p*

8vb
pp

3. SUN TRACKS (Choctaw)

Brilliant (♩ = c.92)

f

The Track of the Sun_ a - cross the Sky_

f

4

leaves_ its shin-ing mes-sage_

f

6

7

il - lu - mi - na - ting, Strength - en - ing,

10

Warm - ing us who are here, showing us

13

we are not a - lone, We are yet a - live!

15

And this fire

ff

17

Our fire shall

19

not die!

21

24



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