

Cerulean S. Payne-Passmore

# SHINE

*for SSAA*

(2014)

Premiered by the  
Twin Cities Women's Choir

Duration: 2 minutes

# Lyrics

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*Where the sun shines not  
let it soon be illuminated  
by traveling dawn  
or meager candle bright:  
may it shine.*

*Light emanates from us all  
surround us forever and ever...*

*What dreams may come when winter's done away?*

*When the sun shines not  
we find that light within us all.*

## Composer's Note

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I wrote this poem when I was a child on a cold and dreary winter's day waiting for the spring to return. It is influenced by the Quaker idea of the spirit as an "inner light" which, like a flame, may rekindle other's spirits, and like the sunlight, can bring forth life from darkness. I later remembered this poem when I was living far from home in the Georgian province of Guria. The winter was harsh, and I was separated from my friends and family. As I began composing, the sounds of the local folk music seeped into my harmonies. You can hear this wherever the music culminates in rich, powerful chords that we might hear as dissonances. These harmonies, often used to resolve a musical phrase in this tradition, sound to me like an unyielding beam of light. I hope they convey the sense of an inner spirit that may sometimes fade or flicker, but never yields.

# SHINE

an invocation for light

♩ = 60, Mysterious

S1 *pp* Ah ah ah ah ah Hm Where the sun  
*pp* Ah ah ah ah ah Hm Where the sun  
*pp* Ah ah ah ah ah Hm  
*pp* Ah ah ah ah ah Hm

10  
S1 *mf p* shines not, ooh let it soon be il - lu - mi - na - ted by *sub. p*  
S2 *mf p* shines not, ooh let it soon be il - lu mi na - ted by *sub. p*  
A1 not ooh let it soon be il - lu - mi - na - ted by *sub. p*  
A2 *mf p* ah not, ooh let it soon be 'lu mi - na - ted

16

S1  
tra vel ing dawn or mea ger can dle bright, may it shine. Light e - ma - nates from us all, sur-

S2  
tra vel ing dawn or mea ger can dle bright it shine. Light e - ma nates from us all, sur-

A1  
tra-v'ling dawn mea ger can dle bright it shine. E - ma nates from all,

A2  
*sub. p* tra vel ing dawn mea ger can dle bright it shine. E - ma nates from all,

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

21

S1  
round-ing us for e-ver and e-ver. What dreams may come when win-ter's done...

S2  
round-ing us for e-ver and e-ver. dreams may come when win-ter's done a - way?

A1  
'round-ing us for e-ver and e-ver. dreams may come when win-ter's done a - way?

A2  
'round - ing us for e-ver and e-ver. dreams may come when win-ter's done a...

*mp*

*pp*

*mp*

*pp*

*mp*

*pp*

27

*pp* Ah ah Ah ah Ah Hm

*pp* Ah ah Ah ah Ah Hm

*pp* Ah ah Ah ah ah Ah Hm

*pp* Ah ah ah ah Ah

35

*p* When the sun shines not,

*p* When the sun shines not,

*p* sun shines not

*p* Hm shines not

