

Gwyneth Walker

The Day is Done

a musical setting of the Henry W.
Longfellow poem *The Day is Done*

for Children's Chorus, SATB Chorus,
Flute, Strings & Percussion (or Piano)

commissioned in 2018 by The Bach Choir of Bethlehem, PA, in celebration of the 25th anniversary of Bel Canto Youth Chorus (founded 1993) and the merger of Bel Canto Youth Chorus with The Bach Choir of Bethlehem (founded 1898)

premiered on May 11, 2019 in Bethlehem, PA

The poem, *The Day is Done*, speaks of evening as the time when poetry and music come alive. They soothe the cares of day. The soul hears the music of *celestial harmonies*. This is *a benediction that follows after prayer*.

The musical setting presents the opening, beautiful lyrics in the children's voices, selected for their lightness and purity of tone. *The day is done, and the darkness falls from the wings of night*. These phrases, or slight variations thereof, return as refrains throughout the song, always falling gently.

The verses alternate between the men's and women's voices, with the children interjecting refrains or offering commentary in the background. Finally, the children interrupt the SATB dialogue with exclamations of *a song! a song! a song!* These lead to the climax of the song, given to the children's chorus, singing *And the night shall be filled with music*. All voices then join together in celebration: *Our song shall fill the night*.

The accompaniment (originally composed for piano, later adapted for flute, strings, and percussion) delights in text-setting with *sparkling arpeggios* depicting the *celestial harmonies*, and filigree patterns for the star-filled night sky.

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and the merger of Bel Canto Youth Chorus with The Bach Choir of Bethlehem (founded 1898)
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The Day is Done

for Children's Chorus (SA), Adult Chorus (SATB) and Piano

“The Day is Done”
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807–1882)
adapted by the composer

Gwyneth Walker

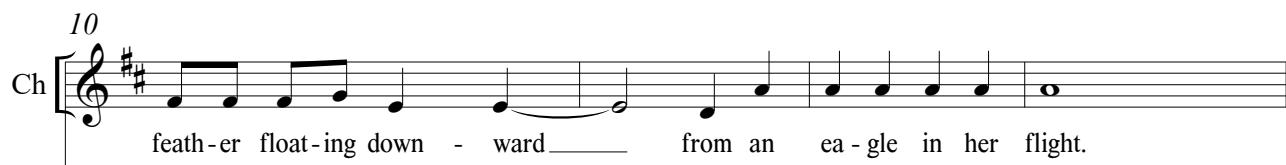
Moderate tempo ♩ = 120

Piano { *p* with pedal simile

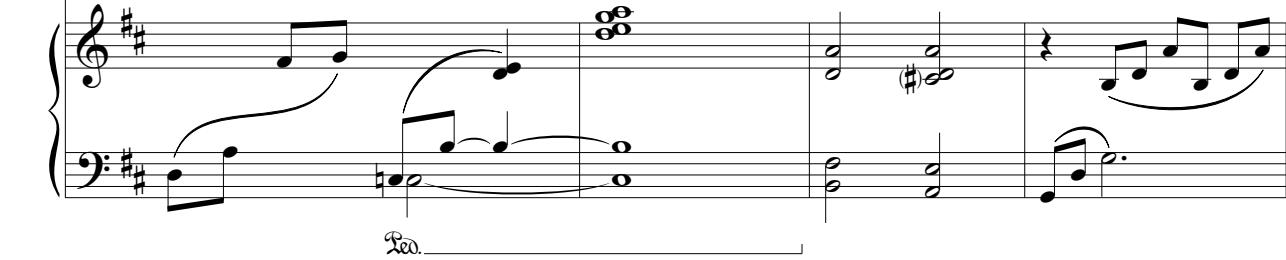
Ch 4 [A] unis. *p* gently The day is done, and the

Ch 7 darkness falls from the wings of night, as a

10

Ch 

feath-er float-ing down - ward _____ from an ea - gle in her flight.

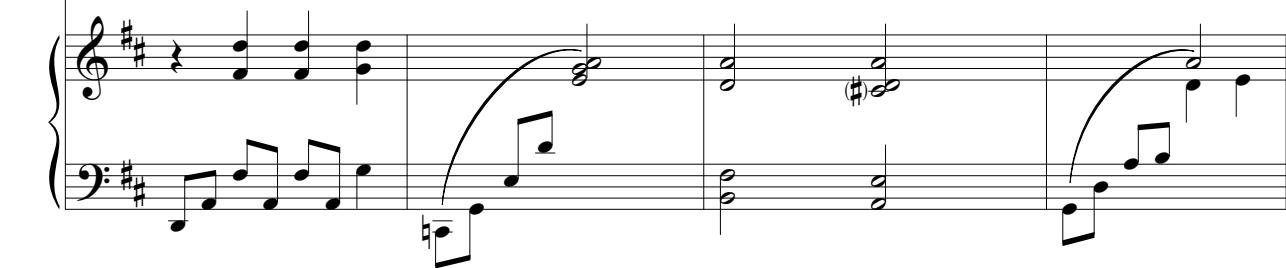


Reo. _____

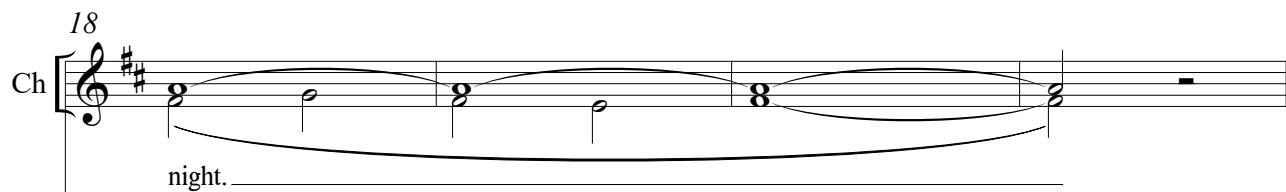
14

Ch 

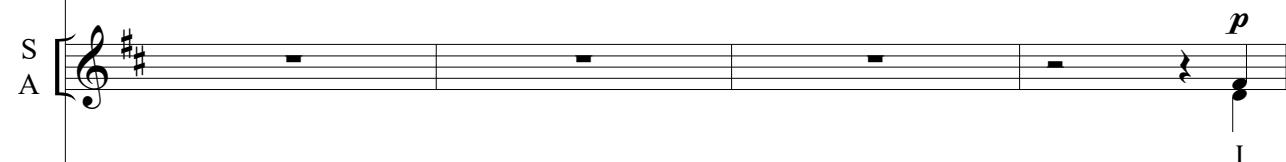
The day is done, and the dark - ness falls from the wings of _____



18

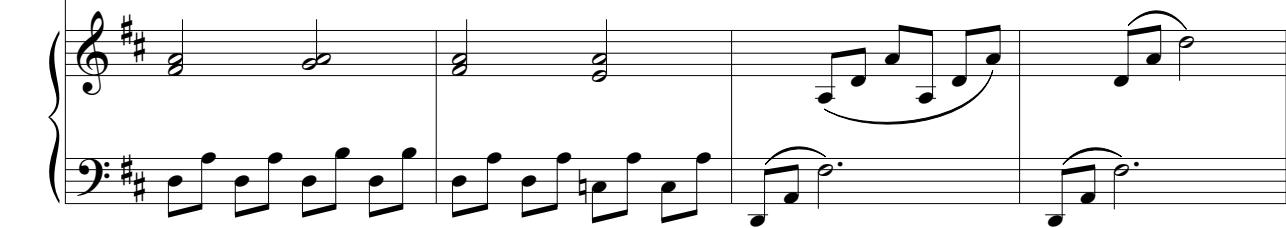
Ch 

night. _____

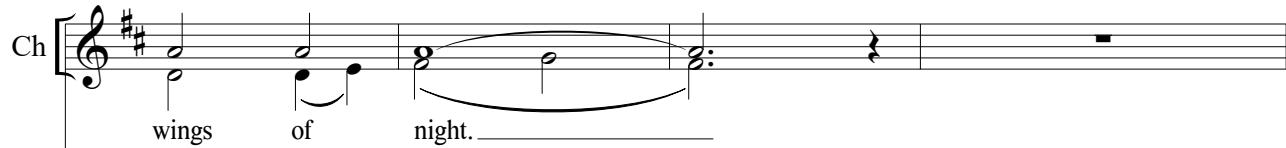
S 

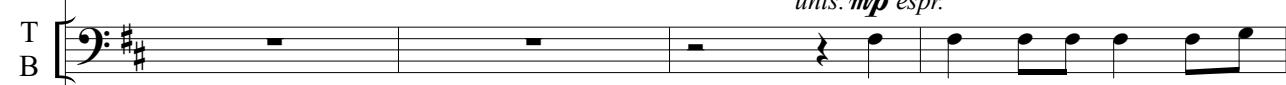
A

p
I



33

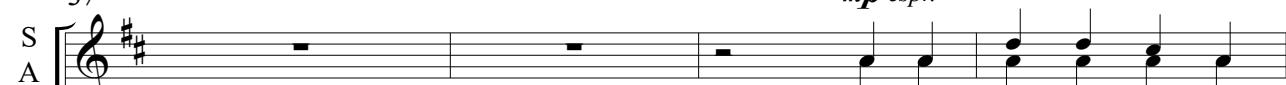
Ch 

T 

B 

A feel - ing of sad - ness and D

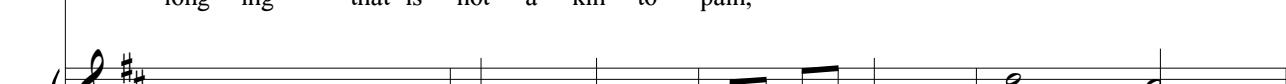
37

S 

A 

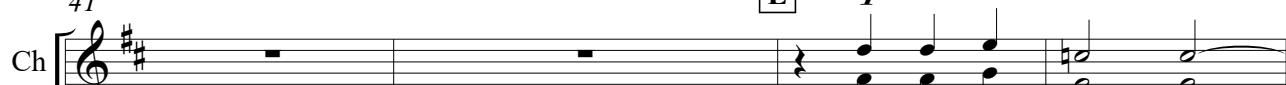
mp *espr.*
it re - sem - bles sor - row

T 

B 

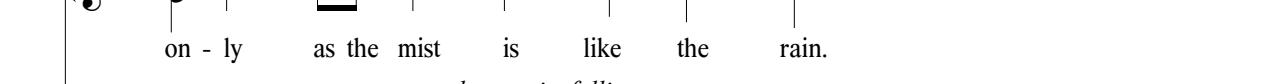
long - ing that is not a - kin to pain,

41

Ch 

E *mp*
Yet there is sad - ness...__

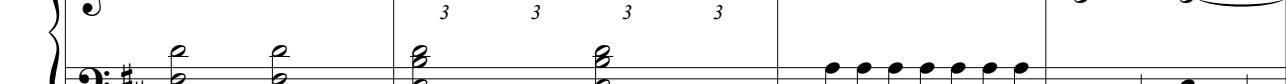
S 

A 

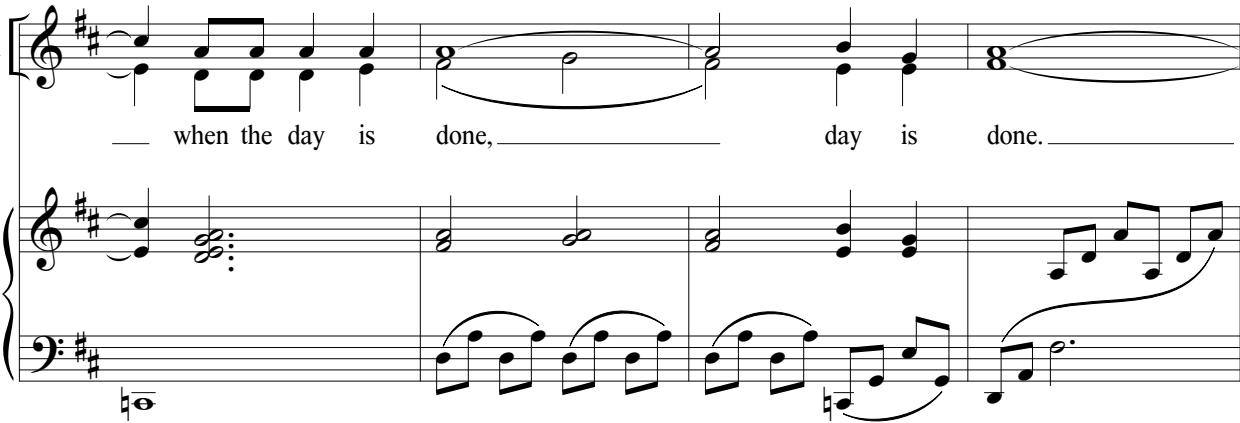
on - ly as the mist is like the rain.

gently, as mist falling

E 



45

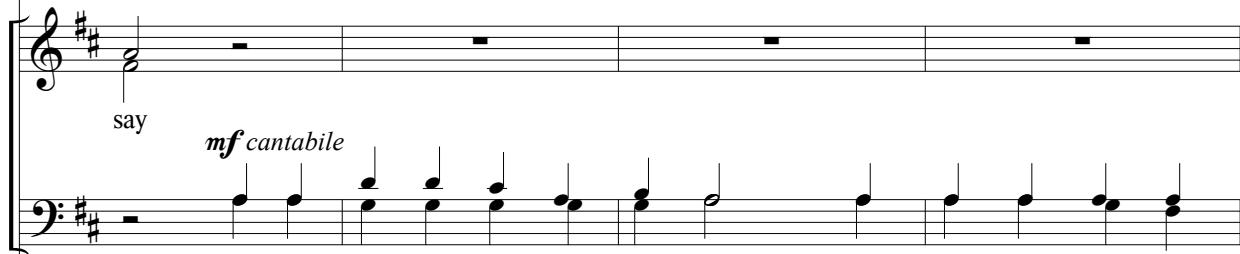
Ch 

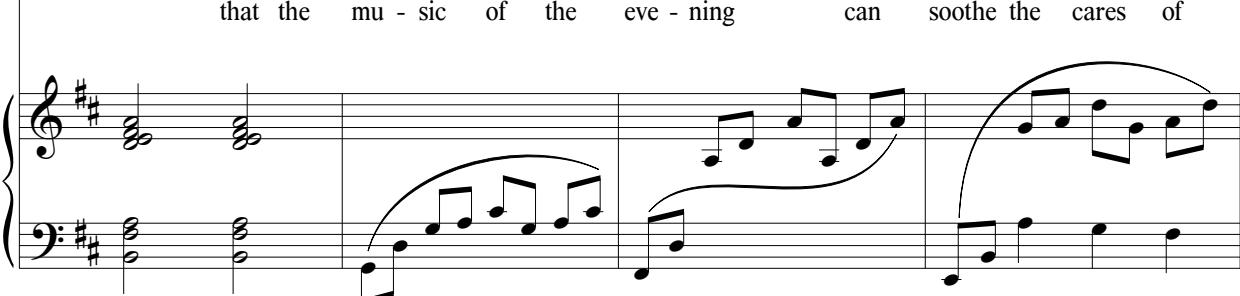
49 F *unis. p in the background*

Ch 

53 *unis.*

Ch 

S A 

T B 

57 **G**

Ch *mf*
day... When dark - ness falls, and the day is

T
B day.

61 **G**

Ch *p* done, day is done. *p*

T
B No *p*

B No *p*

65 **H** with increasing rhythmic energy

T
B words from the grand old mas - ters, nor from the bards sub -

B words from the grand old mas -ters, nor from the bards sub -

H with increasing rhythmic energy

I Faster $\text{♩} = 144$
 [marching character of the music]

72

f

Ch Like the strains of march-ing mu - sic, mu - sic, their
 time. Like the strains of march-ing mu - sic, mu - sic, their

S Like the strains of march-ing mu - sic, their might - y words sug -
 time. Like the strains of march-ing mu - sic, their might - y words sug -

A Like the strains of march-ing mu - sic, their might - y words sug -
 time. Like the strains of march-ing mu - sic, their might - y words sug -

T Like the strains of march-ing mu - sic, their might - y words sug -
 time. Like the strains of march-ing mu - sic, their might - y words sug -

B Like the strains of march-ing mu - sic, their might - y words sug -

I Faster $\text{♩} = 144$
 [marching character of the music]

rit.

Slowly
[strong break]

76 Ch words sug - gest life's end - less toil and en - dea - vor;

S gest life's end - less toil and en - dea - vor; unis. **p**

A gest life's end - less toil and en - dea - vor; unis. **p**

T gest life's end - less toil and en - dea - vor; But now I long for

B gest life's end - less toil and en - dea - vor; rit.

Slowly
[strong break]

(slowly)

p

80 Ch , The day is done, and the

S rest. ,

A rest. ,

B , **p**

10

84

Ch dark - ness falls from the wings of night.

accel. **J** *a tempo* ($\bullet = 132$)

Ch

accel. **J** *a tempo* ($\bullet = 132$)

88

Ch

mf cantabile

91

94 **K** *mf*

S Read from a hum - ble po - et whose songs come from the heart *mf*

A

T

B as

K

98

S
A
T
B

showers from the clouds of sum - mer, or tears from the eyes will

101 L

p

Ch

p

Hmm _____ and nights de - void of

p

Chorus (Ch)

p

Hmm _____ and nights de - void of

p

Soprano (S)

Who, through long days of la - bor, and nights de - void of

p

Alto (A)

Who, through long days of la - bor, and nights de - void of

p

Tenor (T)

start. and nights de - void of

Bass (B)

p

start. and nights de - void of

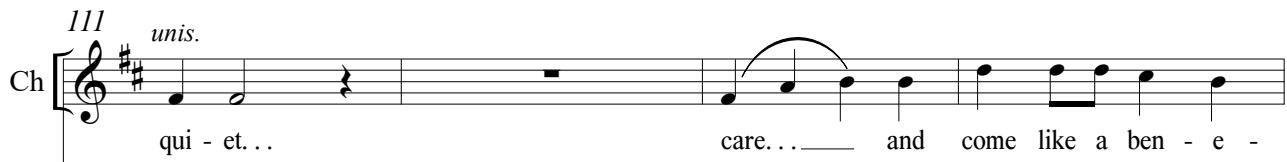
L

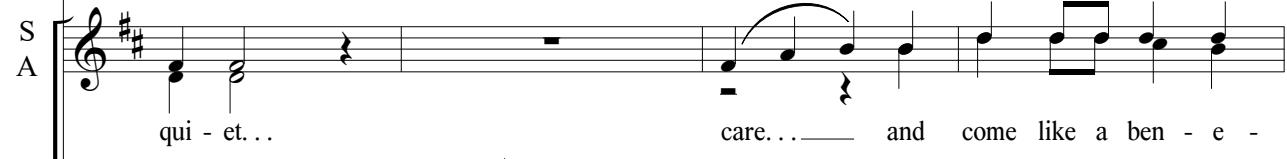
Chorus (Ch)

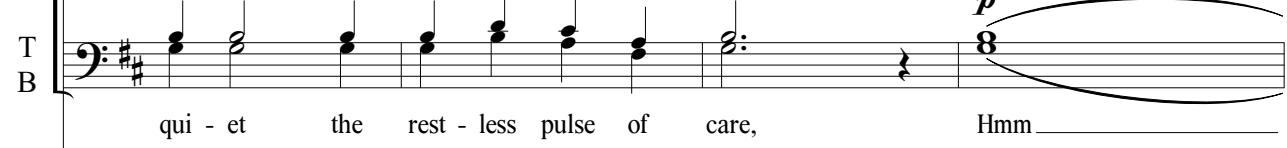
p

Bass (B)

III unis.

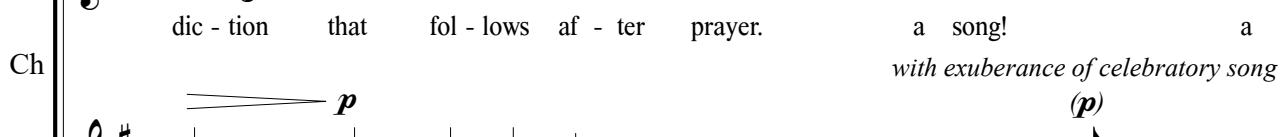
Ch 

S
A 

T
B 

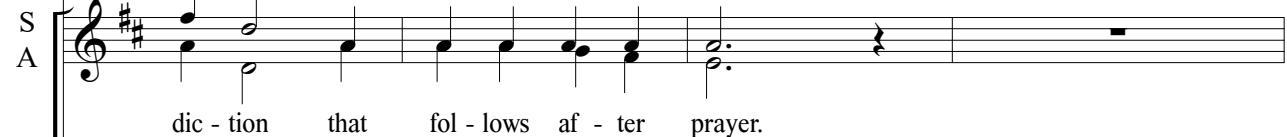
with exuberance of celebratory song

115 

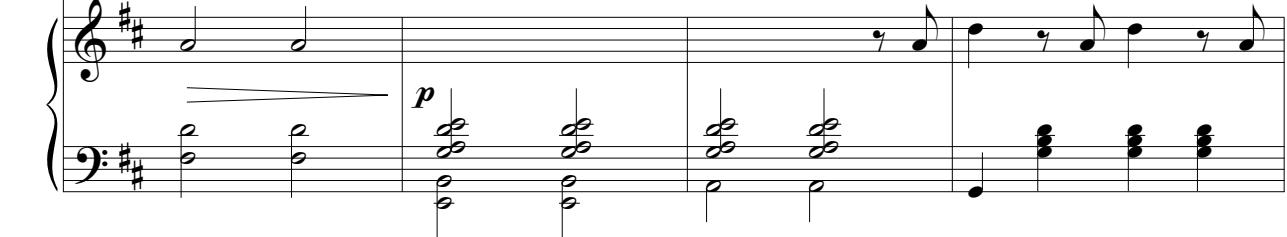
Ch 

with exuberance of celebratory song



S
A 

T
B 



119 [N]

Ch song! a song! a song! a song! a

S A Then read from a trea - sured vol - ume the po - em of your

T B

[N]

123

Ch song! a song! a song! a

A choice,

T B and lend to the rhyme of the po - et the

126

cresc.

Ch song! a song! And the night shall be filled with

cresc.

Ch a song! And the night shall be filled with

S

A

T

B

cresc.

f

beau - ty of your voice.

cresc.

f

O

O

Be

133 *(p)*

Ch and si - lent - ly steal a - way.

S *p* phan - toms,

T For the night shall be filled with *f*

B For the night shall be filled with

p *f* *P*

137 *f*

Ch mu - sic... high... *f*

S The

A my song shall rise on high. The

T my song shall rise on high. *f*

B mu - sic,

P

140

Ch [Treble Clef] - - - - - chor - us...
S [Treble Clef] stars re - sound the chor - us of
A [Bass Clef]
T [Bass Clef] - - - - -
B [Bass Clef]

{ [Treble Clef] 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 [Bass Clef] 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 }

142

Ch [Treble Clef] = sky... Ah

S [Treble Clef] A [Treble Clef] voi - ces 'cross the sky. The stars re - sound the

T [Bass Clef] B [Bass Clef] Ah sky. The stars re - sound the

Q [Treble Clef] Q [Treble Clef]

145

Chorus

Soprano (S)
Alto (A)
Tenor (T)
Bass (B)

chor - us. The heavens dance in de - light. We
chor - us. The heavens dance in de - light. We

Rit.

Slower

148

Chorus

Soprano (S)
Alto (A)
Tenor (T)
Bass (B)

lift our voice to - geth - er. Our song shall
lift our voice to - geth - er. Our song shall
lift our voice to - geth - er. Our song shall
lift our voice to - geth - er. Our song shall

rit.

Slower

p

8va

Rit.

151

Ch fill... night, night,

S fill the night, _____

A fill the night, _____

T fill... night, night,

B fill... night, night,

Piano:
 Measures 1-3: Eighth-note patterns in treble and bass staves. Measure 4: Dynamics *f*, eighth-note patterns. Measure 5: Measures 6-7: Measures 8-9: Measures 10-11: Measures 12-13: Measures 14-15: Measures 16-17: Measures 18-19: Measures 20-21: Measures 22-23: Measures 24-25: Measures 26-27: Measures 28-29: Measures 30-31: Measures 32-33: Measures 34-35: Measures 36-37: Measures 38-39: Measures 40-41: Measures 42-43: Measures 44-45: Measures 46-47: Measures 48-49: Measures 50-51: Measures 52-53: Measures 54-55: Measures 56-57: Measures 58-59: Measures 60-61: Measures 62-63: Measures 64-65: Measures 66-67: Measures 68-69: Measures 70-71: Measures 72-73: Measures 74-75: Measures 76-77: Measures 78-79: Measures 80-81: Measures 82-83: Measures 84-85: Measures 86-87: Measures 88-89: Measures 90-91: Measures 92-93: Measures 94-95: Measures 96-97: Measures 98-99: Measures 100-101: Measures 102-103: Measures 104-105: Measures 106-107: Measures 108-109: Measures 110-111: Measures 112-113: Measures 114-115: Measures 116-117: Measures 118-119: Measures 120-121: Measures 122-123: Measures 124-125: Measures 126-127: Measures 128-129: Measures 130-131: Measures 132-133: Measures 134-135: Measures 136-137: Measures 138-139: Measures 140-141: Measures 142-143: Measures 144-145: Measures 146-147: Measures 148-149: Measures 150-151: Measures 152-153: Measures 154-155: Measures 156-157: Measures 158-159: Measures 160-161: Measures 162-163: Measures 164-165: Measures 166-167: Measures 168-169: Measures 170-171: Measures 172-173: Measures 174-175: Measures 176-177: Measures 178-179: Measures 180-181: Measures 182-183: Measures 184-185: Measures 186-187: Measures 188-189: Measures 190-191: Measures 192-193: Measures 194-195: Measures 196-197: Measures 198-199: Measures 200-201: Measures 202-203: Measures 204-205: Measures 206-207: Measures 208-209: Measures 210-211: Measures 212-213: Measures 214-215: Measures 216-217: Measures 218-219: Measures 220-221: Measures 222-223: Measures 224-225: Measures 226-227: Measures 228-229: Measures 230-231: Measures 232-233: Measures 234-235: Measures 236-237: Measures 238-239: Measures 240-241: Measures 242-243: Measures 244-245: Measures 246-247: Measures 248-249: Measures 250-251: Measures 252-253: Measures 254-255: Measures 256-257: Measures 258-259: Measures 260-261: Measures 262-263: Measures 264-265: Measures 266-267: Measures 268-269: Measures 270-271: Measures 272-273: Measures 274-275: Measures 276-277: Measures 278-279: Measures 280-281: Measures 282-283: Measures 284-285: Measures 286-287: Measures 288-289: Measures 290-291: Measures 292-293: Measures 294-295: Measures 296-297: Measures 298-299: Measures 300-301: Measures 302-303: Measures 304-305: Measures 306-307: Measures 308-309: Measures 310-311: Measures 312-313: Measures 314-315: Measures 316-317: Measures 318-319: Measures 320-321: Measures 322-323: Measures 324-325: Measures 326-327: Measures 328-329: Measures 330-331: Measures 332-333: Measures 334-335: Measures 336-337: Measures 338-339: Measures 340-341: Measures 342-343: Measures 344-345: Measures 346-347: Measures 348-349: Measures 350-351: Measures 352-353: Measures 354-355: Measures 356-357: Measures 358-359: Measures 360-361: Measures 362-363: Measures 364-365: Measures 366-367: Measures 368-369: Measures 370-371: Measures 372-373: Measures 374-375: Measures 376-377: Measures 378-379: Measures 380-381: Measures 382-383: Measures 384-385: Measures 386-387: Measures 388-389: Measures 390-391: Measures 392-393: Measures 394-395: Measures 396-397: Measures 398-399: Measures 400-401: Measures 402-403: Measures 404-405: Measures 406-407: Measures 408-409: Measures 410-411: Measures 412-413: Measures 414-415: Measures 416-417: Measures 418-419: Measures 420-421: Measures 422-423: Measures 424-425: Measures 426-427: Measures 428-429: Measures 430-431: Measures 432-433: Measures 434-435: Measures 436-437: Measures 438-439: Measures 440-441: Measures 442-443: Measures 444-445: Measures 446-447: Measures 448-449: Measures 450-451: Measures 452-453: Measures 454-455: Measures 456-457: Measures 458-459: Measures 460-461: Measures 462-463: Measures 464-465: Measures 466-467: Measures 468-469: Measures 470-471: Measures 472-473: Measures 474-475: Measures 476-477: Measures 478-479: Measures 480-481: Measures 482-483: Measures 484-485: Measures 486-487: Measures 488-489: Measures 490-491: Measures 492-493: Measures 494-495: Measures 496-497: Measures 498-499: Measures 500-501: Measures 502-503: Measures 504-505: Measures 506-507: Measures 508-509: Measures 510-511: Measures 512-513: Measures 514-515: Measures 516-517: Measures 518-519: Measures 520-521: Measures 522-523: Measures 524-525: Measures 526-527: Measures 528-529: Measures 530-531: Measures 532-533: Measures 534-535: Measures 536-537: Measures 538-539: Measures 540-541: Measures 542-543: Measures 544-545: Measures 546-547: Measures 548-549: Measures 550-551: Measures 552-553: Measures 554-555: Measures 556-557: Measures 558-559: Measures 558-559: Measures 560-561: Measures 562-563: Measures 564-565: Measures 566-567: Measures 568-569: Measures 570-571: Measures 572-573: Measures 574-575: Measures 576-577: Measures 578-579: Measures 580-581: Measures 582-583: Measures 584-585: Measures 586-587: Measures 588-589: Measures 590-591: Measures 592-593: Measures 594-595: Measures 596-597: Measures 598-599: Measures 598-599: Measures 600-601: Measures 602-603: Measures 604-605: Measures 606-607: Measures 608-609: Measures 610-611: Measures 612-613: Measures 614-615: Measures 616-617: Measures 618-619: Measures 620-621: Measures 622-623: Measures 624-625: Measures 626-627: Measures 628-629: Measures 630-631: Measures 632-633: Measures 634-635: Measures 636-637: Measures 638-639: Measures 640-641: Measures 642-643: Measures 644-645: Measures 646-647: Measures 648-649: Measures 650-651: Measures 652-653: Measures 654-655: Measures 656-657: Measures 658-659: Measures 660-661: Measures 662-663: Measures 664-665: Measures 666-667: Measures 668-669: Measures 670-671: Measures 672-673: Measures 674-675: Measures 676-677: Measures 678-679: Measures 680-681: Measures 682-683: Measures 684-685: Measures 686-687: Measures 688-689: Measures 690-691: Measures 692-693: Measures 694-695: Measures 696-697: Measures 698-699: Measures 698-699: Measures 700-701: Measures 702-703: Measures 704-705: Measures 706-707: Measures 708-709: Measures 710-711: Measures 712-713: Measures 714-715: Measures 716-717: Measures 718-719: Measures 720-721: Measures 722-723: Measures 724-725: Measures 726-727: Measures 728-729: Measures 730-731: Measures 732-733: Measures 734-735: Measures 736-737: Measures 738-739: Measures 740-741: Measures 742-743: Measures 744-745: Measures 746-747: Measures 748-749: Measures 750-751: Measures 752-753: Measures 754-755: Measures 756-757: Measures 758-759: Measures 760-761: Measures 762-763: Measures 764-765: Measures 766-767: Measures 768-769: Measures 770-771: Measures 772-773: Measures 774-775: Measures 776-777: Measures 778-779: Measures 780-781: Measures 782-783: Measures 784-785: Measures 786-787: Measures 788-789: Measures 790-791: Measures 792-793: Measures 794-795: Measures 796-797: Measures 798-799: Measures 798-799: Measures 800-801: Measures 802-803: Measures 804-805: Measures 806-807: Measures 808-809: Measures 810-811: Measures 812-813: Measures 814-815: Measures 816-817: Measures 818-819: Measures 820-821: Measures 822-823: Measures 824-825: Measures 826-827: Measures 828-829: Measures 830-831: Measures 832-833: Measures 834-835: Measures 836-837: Measures 838-839: Measures 840-841: Measures 842-843: Measures 844-845: Measures 846-847: Measures 848-849: Measures 850-851: Measures 852-853: Measures 854-855: Measures 856-857: Measures 858-859: Measures 860-861: Measures 862-863: Measures 864-865: Measures 866-867: Measures 868-869: Measures 870-871: Measures 872-873: Measures 874-875: Measures 876-877: Measures 878-879: Measures 880-881: Measures 882-883: Measures 884-885: Measures 886-887: Measures 888-889: Measures 890-891: Measures 892-893: Measures 894-895: Measures 896-897: Measures 898-899: Measures 898-899: Measures 900-901: Measures 902-903: Measures 904-905: Measures 906-907: Measures 908-909: Measures 910-911: Measures 912-913: Measures 914-915: Measures 916-917: Measures 918-919: Measures 920-921: Measures 922-923: Measures 924-925: Measures 926-927: Measures 928-929: Measures 930-931: Measures 932-933: Measures 934-935: Measures 936-937: Measures 938-939: Measures 940-941: Measures 942-943: Measures 944-945: Measures 946-947: Measures 948-949: Measures 950-951: Measures 952-953: Measures 954-955: Measures 956-957: Measures 958-959: Measures 960-961: Measures 962-963: Measures 964-965: Measures 966-967: Measures 968-969: Measures 970-971: Measures 972-973: Measures 974-975: Measures 976-977: Measures 978-979: Measures 980-981: Measures 982-983: Measures 984-985: Measures 986-987: Measures 988-989: Measures 990-991: Measures 992-993: Measures 994-995: Measures 996-997: Measures 998-999: Measures 998-999:

rit.

154

Ch shall fill the night.

S shall fill the night.

A shall fill the night.

T shall fill the night.

B shall fill the night.

rit.

8va- >

5:00
September 30, 2018
New Canaan, Connecticut