

A photograph of a snowy night scene. In the foreground, a wooden bench is partially visible on the right, covered in a thick layer of snow. A street lamp stands in the center, its light glowing and illuminating the falling snow. Bare tree branches are visible in the background, and a building with lit windows is in the distance. The overall atmosphere is quiet and wintry.

On The Bench
Donovan Colan

"On The Bench"

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Once it had smiled
 In a warm blanket of dreams
 Of streetlamps and snow
 Forever, forever

Once It had glowed
 Curled in the comfort of borrowed light
 On the beanbag stained with memories
 Forever, forever

It aches for the snow to feel warm again
 For my hands to find yours to warm
 But the streetlamps are dimming
 And the blanket has slipped

Once we had smiled,
 Once we had glowed.
 But it is now frozen
 And I am walking home in the snow, alone
 Forever. Forever,

Cold.
 -Donovan Colan

"On The Bench"

For Choir

Donovan Colan, 2026

$\text{♩} \approx 50$

* blow

Soprano

Soprano 2

Alto

Alto 2

Tenor

Tenor 2

Bass

pp

Mmm

n

pp

pp

Mmm

Mmm

8

S. 1

S. 2

A. 1

A. 2

T. 1

Mmm

pp

Mmm

T. 2

B.

* Performers should experiment freely with breath sounds mimicking cold winter wind -- blowing, turbulent air, and light whistling are all encouraged. Blend and vary spontaneously within the ensemble.

11

S. 1 *mp* 3 blan- ket of

S. 2

A. 1 *pp* *mp* It had smiled In a warm

A. 2 *pp* It had smiled

T. 1 *pp* 8 Once It had smiled In a warm blan- ket of

T. 2 *pp* 8 Mmm In a warm blan- ket of

B. *pp* *unis.* *pp* B2 sings low C if possible div. Mmm In a warm

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for a vocal ensemble. It consists of seven staves. The first two staves are for Soprano (S. 1 and S. 2), the next two for Alto (A. 1 and A. 2), the next two for Tenor (T. 1 and T. 2), and the last for Bass (B.). The music is in 3/4 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score includes lyrics and musical notation with dynamics like *pp* (pianissimo), *mp* (mezzo-piano), and *unis.* (unison). The page number 4 is at the top left, and the measure number 11 is at the top left of the first staff. The lyrics are: "blan- ket of", "It had smiled", "In a warm", "Once It had smiled", "In a warm blan- ket of", "Mmm", "In a warm", "In a warm".

poco accel.

16

S. 1 *mf* 3 *p* *p* 3 *mf* 3
blan-ket of dreams Of street - lamps and

S. 2 *mf* 3 *p* *p* 3 *mf* 3
blan-ket of dreams Of street - lamps and

A. 1 *mp* *mp* 3 3 *p* *mp* 3
dreams Of Street-lamps and of Street - lamps and

A. 2 *mp* *p* 3 *mp* 3
dreams Of Street-lamps and of Street - lamps and

T. 1 *mp* 3 3 3 3
dreams in a warm blank-et of dreams Street-lamps and dreams in a warm blank-et of

T. 2 *mp* *p* *mp*
dreams dreams

B. *mp* *p* *mp*
dreams dreams

(accel.) _ _ _ _ _ sub. a tempo

19

S. 1 *mp* *mf* *pp* *p* *mp*

Of _____ street-lamps and for - ev - er for - ev - er

S. 2 *mp* *mf* *p*

Of _____ street-lamps and snow _____

A. 1 *p* *mf* *p* *mp*

of Street-lamps and snow for - ev - er

A. 2 *p* *mf* *pp* *p* *mp*

dreams of Street-lamps and for - ev - er for - ev - er

T. 1 *p* *mf* *pp* *p* *mp*

dreams Of _____ Street-lamps and for - ev - er for - ev - er

T. 2 *p* *mf* *pp* *mp*

of Street-lamps and snow for - ev - er

B. *p* *mf* *pp* *mp*

of Street-lamps and for - ev - er

* Forever is stressed as FOR-ev-er unless specified with tenuto, descending in pitch as well as dynamics

22 rit. ----- sub. a tempo

S. 1

S. 2

A. 1

A. 2

T. 1

T. 2

B.

for - ev - er

for - ev - er

for - ev - er

Mmm

Mmm

Mmm

p *pp* *pp*

25

S. 1 *mp* 3 com-fort of

S. 2 *mp* 3 com-fort of

A. 1 *pp* Mmm Mmm *mp* *mf* curled in the comfort

A. 2 *pp* Mmm Mmm

T. 1 *pp* Once It had glowed *pp* 3 curled in the com - fort of

T. 2 *pp* Mmm Mmm *pp* 3 curled in the com - fort of

B. *pp* Mmm Mmm *pp* 3 curled in the com - fort of

30 *mf*

S. 1
bor-rowed light Of ___ street-lamps and of ___ bor-rowed light on ___ the

S. 2
bor-rowed light Of ___ street-lamps and of ___ bor-rowed light on ___ the

A. 1
p bor - rowed light *mf* Bor - rowed light ___ *mp* Street lamps

A. 2
p bor-rowed light *mp* 3 for-ev-er for-ev-er for-ev-er for-ev-er for - ev-er for-ev-er for-ev-er for-ev-er

T. 1
8 *p* bor - rowed light *mf* Bor - rowed light ___ *mp* Street lamps

T. 2
8 *p* bor - rowed light *mf* Bor - rowed light ___ *mp* 3 for - ev-er for-ev-er for-ev-er for-ev-er

B.
p bor - rowed light *mf* Bor - rowed light *mp* Street lamps

33

S. 1
 bean - bag stained with mem-o-ries stained with mem - o - ries

S. 2
 bean - bag stained with mem-o-ries stained with mem for-ev - er mem - o - ries mem - o - ries

A. 1
 snow stained with mem-o - ries stained with mem for-ev - er mem - o - ries mem - o - ries

A. 2
 for-ev - er for-ev - er for-ev - er for-ev - er mem-o-ries stained with mem - o - ries for-ev - er for-ev - er for-ev - er for-ev - er

T. 1
 snow stained for-ev - er mem-o-ries stained with mem - o - ries for - ev - er

T. 2
 for-ev - er for-ev - er for-ev - er for-ev - er Ahh Ooh for - ev - er Mmm

B.
 snow stained with Ahh

37 $\text{♩} = 60$

S. 1 *pp* *p* it aches

S. 2 *pp* *p* Mmm it aches

A. 1 *pp* *p* mem - o - ries Mmm it aches

A. 2 *pp* *p* for-ev-er for-ev-er for-ev-er for-ev-er for-ev-er for-ev-er it aches

T. 1 *pp* *p* Mmm it aches

T. 2 *pp* *p* it aches

B. *pp* *p* Mmm it aches

41

S. 1 *pp* *p* *pp* *p*
it aches for the snow _____ to feel warm a - gain it aches

S. 2 *pp* *p* *pp* *p*
it aches for the snow _____ to feel warm it _____ aches

A. 1 *pp* *p* *pp*
it aches for the snow _____ to feel warm a - gain it aches

A. 2 *pp* *p* *pp*
it aches for the snow _____ to feel warm _ a - gain it aches

T. 1 *pp* *p* *pp*
it aches for the snow _____ to feel warm _ a - gain it aches

T. 2 *pp* *p* *pp*
it aches for the snow _____ to feel warm a - gain aches

B. *p* *pp*
for the snow _____ to feel warm a - gain aches

46

S. 1 *pp* *pp* *mp* *mf*
it aches____ for my hands to find yours find yours

S. 2 *pp* *pp* *mp* *mf*
it aches____ for my hands to find yours find yours

A. 1 *pp* *pp* *mf*
it aches____ hands to find yours find yours

A. 2 *pp* *pp* *mf*
it aches____ hands to find yours find yours

T. 1 *pp* *pp* *mf* *p*
it aches____ hands to find yours to find yours to warm a -

T. 2 *pp* *pp* *mf*
it aches____ hands to find yours to find yours

B. *pp* *mf*
hands to find yours to find yours

52

S. 1 *pp* *f*
for - ev - er for - ev - er for - ev - er for - ev - er for - ev - er street lamps are

S. 2 *pp* *f*
Mmm Ahh but the

A. 1 *pp* *f*
Mmm Ahh but the street lamps are

A. 2 *pp* *f*
for - ev - er for - ev - er for - ev - er for - ev - er for - ev - er for - ev - er

T. 1 *sub. pp* *f*
-gain but the street lamps are

T. 2 *pp* *f*
Mmm Ahh but

B. *p* *f*
ah

54 *mf*

S. 1 dim - ming blank - et has slipped the blank-et has slipped

S. 2 *mf*
3 street lamps are dim - ming the blank-et has slipped

A. 1 the street lamps are dim - ming for - ev - er for - ev - er for - ev - er for - ev - er

A. 2 *mf*
3 for - ev - er the street lamps are dim - ming for - ev - er for - ev - er for - ev - er

T. 1 *mf*
8 dim - ming Ooh the blank-et has slipped the blank-et has slipped

T. 2 *mf*
8 the the street lamps are dim - ming

B.

56

S. 1

the blank-et has slipped Mmm

S. 2

p

A. 1

for-ev-er for-ev-er for-ev-er for - ev-er

A. 2

for-ev-er for-ev-er for-ev-er for - ev-er for-ev-er for-ev-er for-ev-er for-ev-er Mmm

pp

T. 1

Ahh

T. 2

Ahh

p

Mmm

B.

mf

Ahh

Mmm

60

S. 1

S. 2

A. 1

pp

but it is now froz-en

ppp

A. 2

pp

once we had smiled but it is now froz-en froz - en

ppp

T. 1

once we had smiled but it is now froz-en froz - en

pp

T. 2

once we had glowed but it is now froz-en

ppp

B.

66

S. 1

S. 2

A. 1

A. 2

T. 1

T. 2

B.

p *for-ev-er*

p *Mmm*

p *for-ev-er*

p *for-ev-er*

p *for-ev-er*

p *for-ev-er*

pp *solo rubato* *3* *3* *3* *pp* *3* *p* *3*

— and I am walk-ing home in the snow alone for-ev-er for-ev-er

71 **rit.** *pp*

S. 1 Mmm cold

S. 2 cold

A. 1 Mmm cold

A. 2 Mmm cold

T. 1 Mmm cold

T. 2 Mmm cold

B. *p* *pp* cold
for - ev - er for - ev - er for - ev - er