I Leave You

from *The Pennsylvania Bicentennial Wagon Train Show* (1976) Anthem for TTBB Chorus and Piano

Lyrics by Roger Cornish

Music by Bruce Trinkley

From the springtime of my life I give you forest Where the stags and streams run free And air is sweet. You can taste the sky. I would gladly die With this light in my eye.

From the summer of my life I leave you lovers. In the fields they learned to love, And their cities rise. While their children grow And they make the future happen every day.

I leave you a world not perfect, But the seeds of perfection are there. You can speak your mind. You can hear the truth. You can change the world if you dare. From the autumn of my life I leave you questions: Did I right the wrongs I found? Did I make just laws? Did I stand and fight? Were my medals won with better folk than I?

From the winter of my life I give you peace; Where there is no word for war; Let tomorrow come, You will have your spring When the guns are silent Heaven can be heard. I leave you the Bill of Rights: Give it your trust; It won't deceive you.

Now in the winter of my life I leave you.

The musical celebration of the nation's 200th birthday was written to accompany the 50 Conestoga wagons that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania presented to each state in the Union. Five companies traversed the continental United States, giving more than 2000 performances of the *Wagon Train Show* from June 1975 through August 1976. The five companies all converged at the Valley Forge Encampment on July 4, 1976.

I Leave You, the final chorus in the *Wagon Train Show* celebrates the rich legacy of the American experience. A closing message in the style of a power ballad, both sober and inspiring, reminds the audience of the gifts we have been given through the seasons.

I Leave You is appropriate for patriotic celebrations, general concert use, and religious services.

I Leave You

for TTBB Voices and Piano with optional guitars and string bass

Lyrics by Roger Cornish (1934-2000) Music by Bruce Trinkley

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