Kalinka

When conducting the Wisconsin All-state Children's Chorus, I enjoyed hearing the Wisconsin All-state Men's Chorus sing "Kalinka" under the direction of Dr. Stan Engebretson. With the Russian text, piano accompaniment and spirited tempo change, this music is very exciting for young people to sing. When asked to conduct the first Indiana All-state Middle/Junior High School Honors Choir, this piece came to mind immediately. Understanding these needs, Dr. Engebretson arranged the same music for SATB. The arrangement would work quite well with only SAB singers if you merge the two inner parts. The Tenor solo requires a fairly sophisticated voice, which presents an excellent opportunity to bring in a soloist with the choir. A soprano can be substituted.

Part of the real charm of singing this music is in the use of the Russian language. It is not difficult to learn and adds distinctively to the color and enjoyment of the piece.

Pronunciation Guide

Vowels should be pronounced as in Italian:

all <u>a</u> vowels = 'ah' all <u>e</u> vowels = 'a' all <u>i</u> vowels = 'e' all <u>o</u> vowels = 'o' all <u>u</u> vowels = 'oo'

The "li" combinations should be pronounced "lyee" i.e. "Kalinka" = "Ka-lyeen-ka"

Each chorus should begin slowly, with gradual accelerando and crescendo. This traditional Russian folk song depicts a winter scene where a young man is singing of his love for his sweet heart, asking the snowball trees (trees laden with snow) to bring her back.

Stan Engebretson is Director of Choral Studies at George Mason University in Northern Virginia and Director of Music at New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington D.C. He received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Stanford University.

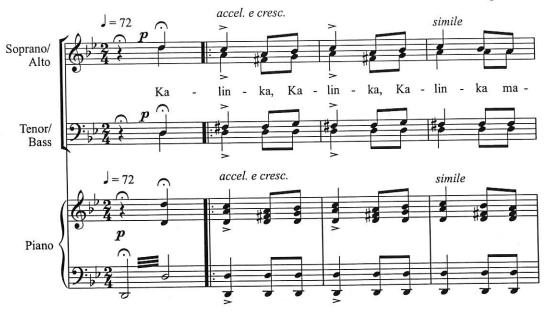
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Kalinka

for SATB Voices and Tenor Solo with Keyboard Accompaniment

Russian Folk song

Arranged by Stan Engebretson





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