

a recovery song

for soprano and piano

by hunter t. johnson

text by amanda lee anne roos (a.l.a.s.)

Author Biography

Amanda Lee Anne Roos was born in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1997. She grew a love and passion for writing in her childhood when she moved around with her family multiple times throughout her early life. She found refuge and familiarity in writing. Amanda proudly expresses herself as a queer woman, and her writing often reflects that as well. Her writing often has themes of LGBTQ+ issues, self love, and body image. Amanda turned toward her writing when struggling to find her identity as a queer woman. She hopes that her writing will help other young people not feel alone on the journey of self discovery. Her latest work, *love in progress*, expresses that self love and discovery is a life-long journey. Amanda graduated from Webster University in December of 2019 with a degree in Educational Studies with an emphasis in Community Engagement and is currently working as an Adoption Counselor at the Belleville Area Humane Society. She uses writing as a creative outlet and hopes that other people can find refuge and solidarity when reading her writing. Amanda currently resides in O'Fallon, Illinois, with her husband, Elliott, and her four cat children.

Composer Biography

hunter t. johnson (he/him) is a dynamic young composer with a rapidly growing catalog of choral works, art songs, and chamber pieces. He takes inspiration from issues of social justice and conflict, working to give voice to sentiments and ideas that he feels are ignored in everyday life. In composing vocal works, he seeks poetry and texts that range from those that explore nature and beauty to those that examine social issues such as self-harm, suicide, and other traditionally avoided topics. He has completed commissions for art songs and choral works, including several works for Grammy Award-winning soprano Christine Brewer. Other commissioning ensembles include Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Webster Groves, MO; the Webster University ChordLoks; and the Lindenwood University Concert Choir under the direction of Pamela Grooms.

An active choral musician, hunter has performed with and conducted groups in concerts across the United States. He is one of the co-founders and the conductor of the choral ensemble *catenary*. hunter's composition *Stars* was awarded the 2017 Missouri Choral Director's Association Opus Award, which recognizes an outstanding choral composition by a Missouri-based composer. His works have been performed by the Webster University Chamber Singers, Concert Choir, and Women's Chorus, under his direction as well as that of Drs. Trent A. Patterson and Stuart Chapman Hill.

hunter holds a Bachelor's of Music Degree in Composition from Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri, where he studied composition with Dr. David Werfelmann and Kim Portnoy.

for Sophie Shugart, soprano
a recovery song
for soprano and piano

amanda lee anne roos (a.l.a.s)

hunter t. johnson

Freely, callous, hurt
p conversational ,

Soprano

one morn - ing, as the sun peeked through my cur - tains

Freely, callous, hurt

Piano

and _____ kissed my pil - low care i woke up and real - ized

i have com - plet - e - ly lost my - self and i have no i - dea how.

2 **Slowly, with rubato and intensity** ♩ = ca.72

p gentle

the

Slowly, with rubato and intensity ♩ = ca.72

pp glassy, lost

Ped.

8 *don't be afraid to take time* *stronger*

sec-onds and the snow turned in-to days and dai - sies. the

p gentle *don't be afraid to take time*

11 *softer, diminished*

days went to months, the months in-to year a year a

mf non troppo *p*

15 *pp possibile* *haunted* *rit. disappointed* *a tempo* *p increasingly desperate*

year, the snow has returned and now i am here: lost. lost.

pp *p* *p* *pp* *p aggressive*

poco accel. rit.

a tempo

5

21

hurt

pained

crying out

lost. —

lost. —

lost. —

lost. —

lost. —

poco accel. rit.

a tempo

glassy, conflicted

growing stronger

PERUSAL SCORE
NOT FOR USE IN PERFORMANCE
SUPPORT ARTISTS

28

> p

rit.

8va

rit.

pp

mf

p

33

a tempo

mf *confident, hurt*

i've lost a girl who used to care for her-self,

a girl whose hap - pi - ness.

a tempo

mf *pressing on*

mf

36 *as if recalling the loveliest memory* *growing violent* *take a moment*

— could un-freeze o-ceans. i've lost a girl i used to know un-der the sound of my— own

p poco sub. *as if recalling the loveliest memory* *mf* *p*

41 *confess* , *mf harshly, deeply hurt*

screams. (exhale) i've lost a girl whose soft-ness was beau-ti-ful,

pp delicate, pained *mf sub.* *Red.*

44 *f* *ff*

her eyes wild and her legs ea-ger to run.

p *f* *ff* *pp* *as broken glass* *8va*

48 *p* almost defeated fondly taking time

i've lost a girl i used to know, who had all the light— with-in her-self that she need-ed to shine.

(8) *ppp* *delicate* *p* *stop or live* *roll slowly*

53 *pp sempre* the sound of broken, beautiful, stained glass

8va—

57 **Freely, assured** *pp* as if stating a simple fact

so i shall take my own hand and un - freeze this o - cean of my soul,

and find her a - gain un - der the wa - ters, the _____ girl i _____ used to know.