

The Thing With Feathers  
For SATB Choir  
2023  
SCORE  
Angie Gecosky  
Lyrics By Emily Dickinson

## **The Thing With Feathers**

SATB Choir

Duration: 45 seconds

2023

### **Program Note:**

Hope is an incredibly fragile, flighty, and uncertain emotion– but even in the darkest times it somehow remains present.

### **Performance Note:**

During this piece the soprano melody should remain above the other parts in volume and clarity, but still find its place among them. Lean into the dynamics as felt– build and fall as is natural between the parts as a whole.

### **About the Composer**

Angie Gecosky is a student at Michigan Technological University who grew up in southeastern Michigan. She is in her third year of studying sound design and music composition.

# The Thing With Feathers

Lyrics by Emily Dickinson

Angie Gecosky

*mf*

SOPRANO  
Hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul And

*mp*

ALTO  
Hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul And

*mp*

TENOR  
8 Hope \_\_\_\_\_ perches in the soul And

*mp*

BASS  
Hope \_\_\_\_\_ perches in the soul And

6

S. *mp*  
sings the tune without\_\_ the words and never stops at all And sweetest in the

A. *p*  
sings the tune without\_\_ the words and never stops at all Ah \_\_\_\_\_

T. *p*  
8 sings without\_\_ words never stops at all Ah \_\_\_\_\_

B. *p*  
sings at all Ah \_\_\_\_\_

11

S. *ff* *mf*  
 gale is heard And sore must be the storm That could abash the little bird that

A. *f* *mp*  
 That could abash the little bird that

T. *f* *mp*  
 Oh little\_bird

B. *f* *mp*  
 Oh little bird

16

S. *f*  
 kept so many warm I've heard it in the chillest land and on the strangest

A. *mf*  
 kept so many warm I've heard it in the chillest land and on the strangest

T. *f*  
 kept so many warm I've heard \_\_\_\_\_ it on the

B. *f*  
 kept them warm I've heard \_\_\_\_\_ it on the

21 *mp*

S. sea Yet never in extremity\_\_\_\_\_ it asked a crumb of me

A. *p*  
sea Yet never in extremity\_\_\_\_\_ it asked a crumb of me

T. *f* *p*  
8 sea it never\_\_\_\_\_ asked of me

B. *f* *p*  
sea it never\_\_\_\_\_ asked of me

The image shows a musical score for four voices: Soprano (S.), Alto (A.), Tenor (T.), and Bass (B.). The score is in a key with two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "sea Yet never in extremity\_\_\_\_\_ it asked a crumb of me". The Soprano and Alto parts are in treble clef, while the Tenor and Bass parts are in bass clef. The Soprano part starts with a dynamic marking of *mp*. The Alto part starts with a dynamic marking of *p*. The Tenor and Bass parts start with a dynamic marking of *f*, which then changes to *p*. There are various musical notations including notes, rests, and slurs. The number 21 is written above the Soprano staff, and the number 8 is written below the Tenor staff.