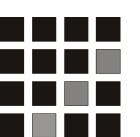




THE FORSAKEN MERMAN

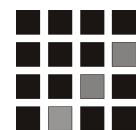
JUDY SPECHT

SATB, Soprano Solo, Piano RM ACH 259





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The Forsaken Merman

Based on the Danish folk tale, "Agnete and the Merman."

Matthew Arnold (1822-1888)

Judy Specht

AGNETE AND THE MERMAN

A Scandinavian Folk Tale

In Scandinavian folklore, Agnete, a human, and a Merman fall in love. They marry and live happily together under the sea for many years, producing seven mer-children. One fateful Easter day Agnete hears church bells wafting down from above. Fearful of losing her soul, she is compelled to return to her kinsfolk to pray with them in the little church on the shore. (For, as we all know, while merfolk may live hundreds of years, at death they but transform into seafoam; while humans, though existing only a short span of years, upon death live on forever through an immortal soul.)

The Merman bids her go, but return to the sea after prayers.



This is their story...



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