

# THE PEACE YOU HOLD

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arr. Seán Doherty

2021

SATB div. a cappella

SDM118

TEXT

### Lake Kanieri

Blue veined & dimpling, dappled in the sun  
Lies Lake Kanieri, like a timid child  
Wide-eyed, close clinging to the spacious skirts  
Of old Tuhua, the big, brawny nurse,  
On whose broad lap I lie. All else is still.  
A bird's near whistle is the only sound  
That in the silence beats into my brain  
Insistent, shrill. Now is no need to serve,  
Or suffer, or regret: it seems life holds  
No future & no past for me but this  
Sun-lighted mountain and the brooding bush.

Nor art, nor history, nor written page  
Could touch me now; it is enough to be,  
And feel the slow & rhythmic pulse of earth  
Beat under me; and see the low red sun  
Stoop o'er the massive shoulders of the range  
Oh lone, heroic, melancholy Hills!  
Your dim, gaunt peaks stand in the after-glow  
Like Duty, stern, implacable & cold;  
Remote from the harsh clamour of the plains,  
And murmur of men's cities all unheard.

Oh still, & calm; Oh, pure & wise & strong!  
My restless heart from your locked hearts shut out,  
Leans on your strength & craves the peace you hold—  
Peace born of conflict. Ye old Stoic Hills!  
Yield up your secrets. On your furrowed fronts  
Are scars of fierce upheavals; in your grave,  
Deep breasts what dreams are shut? Ye seem to stand  
Like pale, impassive monks whose chill looks hide  
Forbidden memories of clinging lips,  
Of passions conquered & of pains repressed  
Within their breasts congealed. With outlines dim  
The hooded slopes, like meek nuns grouped in prayer,  
Kneel in the screened cloister of the bush  
Dark robed & secret; & the laughing lake,  
Smoothed by the slow, cool fingers of the Dusk,  
Has coiled herself to sleep. All light is gone,  
Save on those heights where Day grown weak & old,  
Close by the dying embers of the sun  
Sits like an old man musing on his past.

Lola Ridge (1873–1941)

### PROGRAMME NOTE

The poet Lola Ridge was born in Dublin. She is remembered as an uncompromising Modernist, a political radical, and ardent feminist who wrote poetry on the themes of immigration, politics, and motherhood. In her youth, she lived on the west coast of the South Island of Aotearoa (New Zealand). In this early nature poem, Ridge conveys the experience of a spiritual awakening as she contemplates this sublime landscape. My brother and his fiancée have been living in New Zealand for the last few years and have visited the town in which Ridge lived—Hokitika. I have been amazed at the photos that they send back from this paradise, a land of incredible scenery and free from COVID. This piece is my imagining of this paradise in music, before I can visit myself and trace the footsteps of Lola Ridge. (May 2021)

Performance Time: c. 5 mins

Seán Doherty Music

[seandohertymusic.com](http://seandohertymusic.com)

for Eamonn and Becky  
**The Peace You Hold**

Commissioned by Sing Ireland for Dr Bernie Sherlock and Irish Youth Choir

Lola Ridge

SEÁN DOHERTY

**Andante** ♩ = 70

*ptenderly* *mp* *mf* *f*

T. Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka -

B. *ptenderly* *mp* *mf* *f*  
 Tu - hu - a, Tu - hu - a, Tu - hu - a, Tu -

7

*mpcalmo* *3* *mf*

S. Blue veined and dimp - ling, dap - pled in the sun Lies Lake Ka -

A. Blue veined and dimp - ling, dap - pled in the sun Lies Lake Ka -

T. *pp* *shimmering*  
 ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i,

T. *pp* *shimmering*  
 ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka -

B. *pp* *shimmering*  
 hu - a, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i,

B. *pp* *shimmering*  
 hu - a, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er -

12

S. ni - er - i, like a ti - red child Wide - eyed,

A. ni - er - i, like a ti - red child Wide - eyed,

T. Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i,

T. ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka -

B. Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i,

B. i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er -

15

S. close cling - ing, — cling - ing to the spa - cious skirts Of old Tu -

A. close cling - ing, — cling - ing to the skirts Of old Tu -

T. Ka - ni - er - i, — Ka - ni - er - i, — Tu -

T. ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Tu -

B. Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Tu -

B. i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Tu -

*f*

18

S. hu - a, — *p* *pp shimmering* Ka - ni - er - i, — Ka - ni - er - i, — Ka - ni - er - i, — Ka - ni - er - i, —

S. hu - a, — *p* *pp shimmering* Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka -

A. hu - a, — *p* *pp shimmering* Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i,

A. hu - a, — *p* *pp shimmering* Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er -

T. hu - a, the big, braw - ny nurse, *mf dolce* On whose broad — lap I

T. hu - a, the big, braw - ny nurse, *mf dolce* On whose broad — lap I

B. hu - a, — *p* *mp* Tu - hu - a, — *mf* Tu - hu - a, — *f* Tu -

B. hu - a, — *p* *mp* Tu - hu - a, — *mf* Tu - hu - a, — *f* Tu -

24 rit. . . . .

S. — Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i,

S. ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, Ka -

A. Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i,

A. i, Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-

T. *f* lie. *mp* Now is no need to serve, *mp* Now is no

T. *f* lie. *mp* Now is no need to serve, *mf* Now is no

B. hu - a, Now is no need to suf-fer,

B. hu - a, Or suf-fer,

29 A tempo *mf dolce*

S. — Ka - ni-er-i, And feel the slow and rhythmic pulse of

S. ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, *p* Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i,

A. Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, *p* Tu - hu - a, Tu - hu - a,

A. i, Ka - ni-er-i, *p* Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, Ka -

T. need to re-gret: *mf* It is e-nough to be, *f* Tu - hu - a, Tu - hu - a,

T. need to re-gret: *mf* It is e-nough to be, *f* Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i,

B. or re-gret: *mp* It is e-nough to be, *f* *p sub.* Tu - hu - a, Tu - hu - a, Tu -

B. or re-gret: *mp* It is e-nough to be, *f* *p sub.* Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-i, Ka - ni-er-

34

S. earth Beat un - der me, un - der me, un - der

S. Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i,

A. Tu - hu - a, Tu - hu - a, Tu - hu - a, Tu - hu - a,

A. ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i,

T. Tu - hu - a, Tu - hu - a, Tu - hu - a, Tu - hu - a,

T. Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i,

B. hu - a, Tu - hu - a, Tu - hu - a, Tu - hu - a,

B. i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i,

*mp* *p*  
*dim.* *pp*  
*dim.* *pp*  
*dim.* *pp*  
*dim.* *pp*  
*dim.* *pp*

38

S. me. Oh, lone, he - ro - ic, mel - an - cho - ly Hills! Your dim, gaunt

S. Oh, lone, he - ro - ic, mel - an - cho - ly Hills! Your gaunt

A. Oh, lone, he - ro - ic, mel - an - cho - ly Hills! Your dim, (m)

A. Oh, lone, he - ro - ic, mel - an - cho - ly Hills! Your

T. Oh, lone, he - ro - ic, mel - an - cho - ly Hills! mmm

T. Oh, lone, he - ro - ic, mel - an - cho - ly mmm

B. Oh, lone, he - ro - ic, mel - an - cho - ly Hills! mmm

B. Oh, lone, he - ro - ic, mel - an - cho - ly mmm

*Con moto*  $\text{♩} = 120$  *molto rit.* *Moderato*  $\text{♩} = 80$

*gliss.* *ff* *mp* *p*  
*p* *ff* *mp* *p*  
*gliss.* *ff* *mp* *p*  
*p* *ff* *mp* *p*  
*gliss.* *ff* *mp* *pp*  
*p* *ff* *mp* *pp*  
*gliss.* *ff* *mp* *pp*  
*p* *ff* *mp* *pp*

Presto ♩ = 160

43

S. peaks stand in the af - ter glow Like Du - ty, stern, im - pla - ca - ble and cold; Re - mote from the

S. peaks stand in the af - ter glow Like Du - ty, stern, im - pla - ca - ble and cold; Re - mote from the

A. peaks stand in the af - ter glow Like Du - ty, stern, im - pla - ca - ble and cold;

A. peaks stand in the af - ter glow Like Du - ty, stern, im - pla - ca - ble and cold;

T. → ah → mmm → ah → mmm cold; Re - mote from the

T. → ah → mmm → ah → mmm cold; Re - mote from the

B. → ah → mmm → ah → mmm cold;

B. → ah → mmm → ah → mmm cold;

52

S. harsh cla - mour of the plains, And mur - mur of men's cit - ies, Re - mote from the harsh cla - mour of the

S. harsh cla - mour of the plains, And mur - mur of men's cit - ies, Re - mote from the harsh cla - mour of the

A. mur - mur of men's, mur - mur of men's cit - ies, Re - mote from the

A. mur - mur of men's, mur - mur of men's cit - ies, Re - mote from the

T. harsh cla - mour of the plains, And mur - mur of men's cit - ies, Re - mote from the harsh cla - mour of the

T. harsh cla - mour of the plains, And mur - mur of men's cit - ies, Re - mote from the harsh cla - mour of the

B. mur - mur of men's, mur - mur of men's cit - ies, Re - mote from the

B. mur - mur of men's, mur - mur of men's cit - ies, Re - mote from the

58

S. plains, And mur-mur of men's cit - ies, Re - mote from the harsh cla - mour of the

S. plains, And mur-mur of men's cit - ies, Re - mote from the harsh cla - mour of the

A. harsh cla - mour of the plains, And mur-mur of men's cit - ies, Re - mote from the

A. harsh cla - mour of the plains, And mur-mur of men's cit - ies, Re - mote from the

T. plains, And mur-mur of men's, mur-mur of men's, mur-mur of men's, cit - ies, Re -

T. plains, And mur-mur of men's, mur-mur of men's, mur-mur of men's, cit - ies, Re -

B. harsh cla - mour of the plains, And mur-mur of men's, mur-mur of men's, mur-mur of men's cit -

B. harsh cla - mour of the plains, And mur-mur of men's, mur-mur of men's, mur-mur of men's cit -

63

S. plains, And mur-mur of men's cit - ies, Re - mote from the harsh cla - mour of the

S. plains, And mur-mur of men's, mur-mur of men's, Re - mote from the harsh cla

A. harsh cla - mour of the plains, And mur-mur of men's cit - ies, Re - mote from the

A. harsh cla - mour of the plains, And mur-mur of men's, mur-mur of men's, Re - mote

T. mote from the harsh cla - mour of the plains, And mur-mur of men's cit - ies, Re -

T. mote from the harsh cla - mour of the plains, And mur-mur of men's, mur-mur of men's,

B. - ies, Re - mote from the harsh cla - mour of the plains, And mur-mur of men's cit -

B. - ies, Re - mote from the harsh cla - mour of the plains, And mur-mur of men's,



68

S. plains, *p* And mur-mur of men's cit - ies, *f* Re - mote from the

S. - mour of the plains, *p* And mur-mur of men's cit - ies, *f* Re - mote

A. harsh cla - mour of the plains, *p* And mur-mur of men's cit - ies, *f* Re -

A. from the harsh cla - mour of the plains, *p* And mur-mur of men's cit - ies,

T. mote from the harsh cla - mour of the plains, *p* And mur-mur of men's cit -

T. *f* Re - mote from the harsh cla - mour of the plains, *p* And mur-mur of -

B. - ies. *f* Re - mote from the harsh cla - mour of the plains, *p* and

B. mur-mur of men's, *f* Re - mote from the harsh cla - mour of the plains,

72

S. harsh cla - mour of the plains, *cresc.* And mur-mur of men's, mur-mur of men's,

S. from the harsh cla - mour of the plains, *cresc.* And mur-mur of men's, mur-mur of -

A. mote from the harsh cla - mour of the plains, *cresc.* And mur-mur of men's,

A. *f* Re - mote from the harsh cla - mour of the plains, *cresc.* And mur-mur of -

T. - ies, *f* Re - mote from the harsh cla - mour of the plains, *cresc.* And

T. men's cit - ies, *f* Re - mote from the harsh cla - mour of the plains,

B. mur-mur of men's cit - ies, *f* Re - mote from the harsh cla - mour of the

B. *p* And mur-mur of men's cit - ies, *f* Re - mote from the harsh cla

76

S. mur - mur of men's, mur - mur of men's, mur - mur of men's cit - ies all

S. men's, mur - mur of men's, mur - mur of men's, of men's cit - ies all

A. mur - mur of men's, mur - mur of men's, mur - mur of men's cit - ies all

A. men's, mur - mur of men's, mur - mur of men's, of men's cit - ies all

T. mur - mur of men's, mur - mur of men's, mur - mur of men's cit - ies all

T. *cresc.* And mur - mur of men's, mur - mur of men's, of men's cit - ies all

B. plains, *cresc.* And mur - mur of men's, mur - mur of men's cit - ies all

B. - mour of the plains, *cresc.* And mur - mur of men's, of men's cit - ies all

80

*fp* *ff* *pp* *tranquilo*

S. un heard. Oh, still calm; pure wise

S. un heard. Oh, still Oh, pure and

A. un heard. Oh, calm; and wise and

A. un heard. Oh, still and calm; and

T. un heard. Oh, still and

T. un heard. Oh, still wise and

B. un heard. Oh, still pure and

B. un heard. Oh, Oh,

87

*mp* strong! My heart locked, Leans on your strength and

*mp dolce* strong! My rest - less. heart from your locked heart's Leans on your strength and

*mp* strong! My heart shut out, Leans on your strength and

*mp* strong! My heart, shut out, Leans on your strength and

T. strong! (ng) My heart

B. strong! (ng) My heart

94

*mf* craves the peace you hold. *f* Peace born of con - flict. *p* My heart locked, *rit.*

*mf* craves the peace you hold. *f* Peace born of con - flict. *mp* ah

*mf* craves the peace you hold. *f* Peace born of con - flict. *pp* My heart's shut out, *mp*

*mf* craves the peace you hold. *f* Peace born of con - flict. *pp* My heart shut out, *mp*

T. craves peace, the peace you hold. *mf* *pp*

B. craves peace, the peace you hold. *mf* *pp* Tu -

**A tempo**

101

*mp* My heart craves peace, the peace you hold. *mf* *mp* *rit.* *mf* *pp*

*mp* My heart craves peace, the peace you hold. *mf* *pp*

T. Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, Ka - ni - er - i, *p* *mp* *mf* *p* *pp*

B. hu - a, Tu - hu - a, Tu - hu - a, Tu - hu - a, *mp* *mf* *p* *pp*