

MOTHER'S SONG

If snow falls on the far field
where travelers
spend the night,
I ask you, cranes,
to warm my child in your wings.

*Anonymous, Japanese,
translated by Willis Barnstone*

During this time of quarantine and crisis it is impossible to forget that, of the many roles I play in life, my role as a mother is of most importance. I nurture my children and protect them. I take their health and well-being into account with every decision I make. They remind me that we were all children once, and that we are all worthy of the utmost care from our friends and neighbors.

Jocelyn Hagen, October 2020

*Commissioned by VOCES8 for their LIVE from London – Christmas 2020 festival,
and first performed by them at the VOCES8 Centre, London, on 5th December, 2020
and live-streamed globally as part of a set of six new works.*

Duration: 1'45"

Mother's Song

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Warm and inviting ♩ = 69

Musical score for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass, measures 1-5. The score is in 4/4 time and features a melodic line for each voice part with lyrics "Oo". The dynamics are marked *mp* (mezzo-piano).

Musical score for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass, measures 6-9. The score is in 2/4 time. It includes a *rit.* (ritardando) section followed by a *a tempo* section. Dynamics range from *p* (piano) to *pp* (pianissimo). Lyrics include "If snow falls on the" and "Doo doo doo doo".

Musical score for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass, measures 10-13. The score is in 2/4 time. It includes lyrics "far field where travelers spend the night," and "Doo doo doo doo". Dynamics range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *mf* (mezzo-forte).

* very light "D"