

# LONG LIVE THE WEEDS

voice: *sempre non-vibrato*

for mezzo-soprano and piano

based on a poem by Theodore Roethke

by Cliff Crego

$\text{♩} = 180$

The musical score is written for mezzo-soprano and piano. It consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 180. The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (f, *ped. sempre*), articulation (accents, slurs), and performance instructions (ped off). The lyrics are: "Long live the weeds that o-ver-whelm My nar-row vege-table realm!— The bit-ter rock, the bar-ren soil That force the son of man to toil; All things un - ho - ly, marked by curse,— The ug-ly of the un - i - verse. The rough, the wick-ed and the wild That keep the spir - it un - de".

**mezzo-soprano**

*f* Long live the weeds that o-ver-whelm My nar-row vege-table

**piano**

*f* *ped. sempre* *f*

**ms**

realm!— The bit-ter rock, the bar-ren soil That force the

**pn**

(*ped.*) *f*

**ms**

son of man to toil; All things un - ho - ly, marked by curse,—

**pn**

*f* \* *ped off* *f* *ped.*

**ms**

The ug-ly of the un - i - verse. The rough, the

**pn**

**ms**

wick-ed and the wild That keep the spir - it un - de

**pn**

(*ped.*)

23

ms

filed. with these I match my lit-tle wit And earn the right to

*Ped.* \* *ped off*

28

ms

stand or sit. Hope, look, cre - ate,

32

ms

or drink and die:

36

ms

*f* These shape the crea - ture that is

39

ms

I. (I.) *f* Long live the weeds that

pn

42

ms

o - ver - whelm My nar - row veg' - ta - ble

pn

*v.* (sonoro)

45

ms

realm!— The bit - ter rock,

pn

*f*

47

ms

the bar - ren soil That force the

pn

50

ms

son of man to toil; All things un -

pn

53

ms

ho - ly, marked by curse,——

pn

55

ms

The ug - ly of the un - i - verse. The rough,

pn

58

ms

the wick - ed, and the wild That

pn

62

ms

keep the spir - it un - de - filed. With these I match my

pn

65

ms

lit - tle wit And earn the right to

pn

68

ms  
 stnad or sit. Hope, look, cre - ate,

pn

72

ms  
 or drink and die:

pn

75

ms  
*f* These shape the crea-ture that is

pn

*Red.* \*  
*(subito)*

79

ms  
 I (I.)

pn

**duration:** c. 2' 30"

**On the Web at:**  
<http://www.cs-music.com/voice/weeds-1.html>

## **LONG LIVE THE WEEDS**

Long live the weeds that overwhelm  
My narrow vegetable realm!—  
The bitter rock, the barren soil  
That force the son of man to toil;  
All things unholy, marked by curse,  
The ugly of the universe.  
The rough, the wicked, and the wild  
That keep the spirit undefiled.  
With these I match my little wit  
And earn the right to stand or sit.  
Hope, look, create, or drink and die:  
These shape the creature that is I.

*Theodore Roethke*