

# Held Fast

Paul Bouman

## Held Fast

Helene Victoria Debelak

Paul Bouman

Expressively; with rubato mp

Voice You went a-way

Piano p

*f* *p*

8<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup>

6 *Ped. ad libitum*

gent-ly in that night, when at morn-ing watch you rose with the dawn en-shroud-ed in light to an-oth-er

11 *rit.*

day-spring. And I left here in sha dows and scar - ing numb - ness

*rit.*

16 *a tempo*

watched light break through blue heav - en

20 *rit.* . . . . *a tempo; espressivo*

on-to my liv-ing room floor,

*p*

*Ped. ad libitum*

25 *wistfully*

held fast by strange beau - ty and con

*mf*

*Ped. ad libitum*

30 *rall.* . . . . *a tempo; ma meno mosso*

sum - ing mys - te - ry.

*rall.*

*mf*

*pp*

Helene Victoria Debelak is the daughter of the composer and his wife, Victoria Bartling Bouman

*Author's note:* My siblings and I were together with my father in his living room shortly after my mother died at dawn on Christmas morning (12/25/11). "Dayspring" is a term found in Luke 1:78. *Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.* (KJV) As the early morning light streamed into the room, we felt held by something loving and greater than we were in the midst of our sorrow.