

Garden of Eden

by J. Todd Frazier

*for Clarinet in Bb, Violin, Cello, Vibraphone, and two Marimbas
Commissioned in 2006 by the Texas Music Teachers Association
Inspired by the poem "The Earthly Paradise"
written by 8-10 year old students of the Wilhelm School International*

Dedicated to Amy Freeman Lee

The Earthly Paradise

In the beginning
There was a garden of ideal delight
A land of no-forgetting
Where everyone remembered
We are each other
Their harmony was heavenly

But in this golden time and space
There grew a Tree of Forgetfulness
To eat of this fruit meant to forget
Who we are
What we are
How we are to live

An alluring snake
Leads us into temptation
The land of forgetfulness
The tempter puts us to the test
Will you eat of this fruit
Or will you remember
To forget yourself
And reach heaven every day