

# Blue

From The Colored Land  
a Navajo Indian Book

Jason Phillips

like a long-remembered folk song

Voice

Piano

*p*

simply, non-metered

6

1. Man-y blues In this land, Tur-quoise beads, col-ored sand.

Pno.

A and B

6

10

2. Moth-er's blouse, Clear blue sky, Blue-birds' wings,

Pno.

A and B

10

**Note:** play A clusters like light, bell-like shakers, and B notes like quiet, unpitched drums, both A and B always soft. Accompany the singer as if A and B are separate players who are improvising a background percussion accompaniment, sometimes playing as the singer sings, sometimes tacit as the singer sings acapella, sometimes A and B overlapping or playing together, sometimes only A or only B playing alone. Repeat A clusters and B notes ad-libitum, sometimes oscillate between the two clusters or notes. Begin or end improvised patterns on either A cluster or B note. Always play A one or two octaves higher than written. Play B as written. Accompany singer in this manner until the singer has finished verse 3. Song ends with short, improvised A and/or B percussion coda.

14 *mf* , *mp*

Moun - tains high. 3. Wa - ter, springs, Me - sas, too.

Pno.

A and B →

19 *p* *simply* *lingering, fading* *pp*

In this land So much blue.

Pno.

A and B tacit

short A and B coda →