



CAROL BARNETT

A TREE TELLING OF ORPHEUS



BEADY EYES PUBLISHING
www.carolbarnett.net

A TREE TELLING OF ORPHEUS

poem by
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music by
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beady eyes
Publishing

Composer's note

I first read “A Tree Telling of Orpheus” nearly twenty years ago in a collection of poems about music, and have been searching ever since for a chance to set it – not an easy task given its length. Thanks to the generous spirit of Tom Brooks and the Gordon College Music Department, my setting, a choral opera scene relating Orphic events from an arboreal point of view, has finally come to life.

A couple of technical details: the altos should get their initial pitch in some way inaudible to the audience. And the “x” notation in mm. 179-218 is not Sprechstimme, but rather a stylized chanting of the text; the varying positions of the “x”’s are to guide inflection and intensity, not pitch.

duration: c. 14:30

A Tree Telling of Orpheus

White dawn. Stillness. When the rippling began
I took it for sea-wind, coming to our valley with rumors
of salt, of treeless horizons. But the white fog
didn't stir; the leaves of my brothers remained outstretched,
unmoving.

Yet the rippling drew nearer—and then
my own outermost branches began to tingle, almost as if
fires had been lit below them, too close, and their twig-tips
were drying and curling.

Yet I was not afraid, only
deeply alert.

I was the first to see him, for I grew
out on the pasture slope, beyond the forest.
He was a man, it seemed: the two
moving stems, the short trunk, the two
arm-branches, flexible, each with five leafless
twigs at their ends,
and the head that's crowned by brown or gold grass,
bearing a face not like the beaked face of a bird,
more like a flower's.

He carried a burden made of
some cut branch bent while it was green,
strands of a vine tight-stretched across it. From this,
when he touched it, and from his voice
[which unlike the wind's voice had no need of our
leaves and branches to complete its sound,]
came the ripple.
But [it was] now no longer a ripple (he had come near and
stopped in my first shadow) it was a wave that bathed me
as if rain
rose from below and around me
instead of falling.

And what I felt was no longer a dry tingling:
I seemed to be singing as he sang, I seemed to know
what the lark knows; all my sap
was mounting towards the sun that by now
had risen, the mist was rising, the grass
was drying, yet my roots felt music moisten them
deep under earth.

He came still closer, leaned on my trunk:
the bark thrilled like a leaf still-folded.

Music! There was no twig of me not
trembling with joy and fear.

Then as he sang
it was no longer sounds only that made the music:
he spoke, and as no tree listens I listened, and language
came into my roots

out of the earth,
into my bark
out of the air,
into the pores of my greenest shoots
gently as dew

and there was no word he sang but I knew its meaning.

He told of journeys,
 of where sun and moon go while we stand in dark,
 of an earth-journey he dreamed he would take some day
deeper than roots...

He told of the dreams of man, wars, passions, griefs,
and I, a tree, understood words—ah, it seemed
my thick bark would split like a sapling's that
grew too fast in the spring
when a late frost wounds it.

Fire he sang,
that trees fear, and I, a tree, rejoiced in its flames.
New buds broke forth from me though it was full summer.
As though his lyre (now I knew its name)
were both frost and fire, its chords flamed
up to the crown of me.

I was seed again.
I was fern in the swamp.
I was coal.

And at the heart of my wood
(so close I was to becoming man or a god)
there was a kind of silence, a kind of sickness,
something akin to what men call boredom.
[something
(the poem descended a scale, a stream over stones)
that gives to a candle a coldness
in the midst of its burning, he said.]

It was then,
when in the blaze of his power that
reached me and changed me
I thought I should fall my length,
that the singer began
to leave me. Slowly
moved from my noon shadow
to open light,

words leaping and dancing over his shoulders
back to me
 rivery sweep of lyre-tones becoming
slowly again
 ripple.

And I
 in terror
 but not in doubt of
 what I must do
in anguish, in haste,
 wrenched from the earth root after root,
the soil heaving and cracking, the moss tearing asunder—
and behind me the others: my brothers
forgotten since dawn. In the forest
they too had heard,
and were pulling their roots in pain
out of a thousand years' layers of dead leaves,
 rolling the rocks away,
 breaking themselves
 out of
 their depths.
You would have thought we would lose the sound of the lyre
 of the singing
so dreadful the storm-sounds were, where there was no storm,
 no wind but the rush of our
branches moving, our trunks breasting the air.
 But the music!

The music reached us:

Clumsily,
 stumbling over our own roots,
 rustling our leaves
 in answer,
we moved, we followed.

All day we followed, up hill and down.
 We learned to dance,
for he would stop, where the ground was flat,
 and words he said
taught us to leap and to wind in and out
around one another in figures the lyre's measure designed.
The singer

 laughed till he wept to see us, he was so glad.
 At sunset
we came to this place [I stand in,] this knoll
with its ancient grove that was bare grass then.

In the last light of that day his song became
farewell.

He stilled our longing.

He sang our sun-dried roots back into earth,
watered them: all-night rain of music so quiet

we could almost

not hear it in the
moonless dark.

By dawn he was gone.

We have stood here since,
in our new life.

We have waited.

He does not return.

It is said he made his earth-journey, and lost
what he sought.

It is said they felled him
and cut up his limbs for firewood.

And it is said
his head still sang and was swept out to sea singing.
Perhaps he will not return.

But what we have lived
comes back to us.

We see more.

We feel, as our rings increase,
something that lifts our branches, that stretches our furthest
leaf-tips
further.

The wind, the birds,
do not sound poorer but clearer,
recalling our agony, and the way we danced.
The music!

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A TREE TELLING OF ORPHEUS

for S.A.T.B. Chorus, *a cappella*

DENISE LEVERTOV

CAROL BARNETT

Soprano ♩ = c.60 *sempre espressivo, poco rubato*
niente *poco cresc.* **pp** **pp solo** *gradual tutti*
breathe on "ah" (n)

Alto *niente* *poco cresc.* **pp solo** *gradual tutti*
breathe on "ah" (n)

Tenor *niente* *poco cresc.* **pp**
Bass *breathe on "ah"* *niente* *poco cresc.* **pp**
Piano (for rehearsal only) **pp**

1

NOTE: Alto pitch should be gotten in some way unnoticed by the audience.

S 8 **pp** Still ness. (n)
A **pp** White dawn. (n)
T 8 **pp** (n)
B

3 3

12

S When the rip-pling be - gan (n) _____

A

T *p* I took it for sea - wind, _____
com-ing to our
decresc. *niente*

B

{

12

14

S

A

T val - ley with ru - mors of salt, _____ (n) _____

B *p* of tree-less ho - ri - zons. _____

{

14

16

S

A

T

B

B

(n)

p

pp

the

(n)

16

18

S

A

T

B

breathe on "ah"

leaves of my broth - ers _____ re - mained out - stretched, _____ un - mov - ing.

pp

18

20

Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Bass (B)

(ng) and then my

p

Yet the rippling drew near - er- (n) _____

20

22

Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Bass (B)

cresc. p mp al - most as if fire had been

cresc. p mp 3 al - most as if fire had been

cresc. mp 3 p own out - er-most branch-es be - gan to tin - gle, (ng)

cresc. p

cresc. mp 3 p

24

S lit be - low them, — too close, (n) _____

A lit be - low them, — too close, (n) _____

T *mp* and their twig - tips were dry-ing and curl - ing. (ng) _____

B

{

24

26

S

A

T *p*

B Yet I _____ was not a-fraid, on-ly deeply a-lert. _____

{

26

poco più mosso $\text{J} = \text{c.63}$

29

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: I was the first to see him, for I

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: I was the first to see him, for I

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: ah

Bass (B) vocal line with instruction: breathe on "ah"

pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic

poco più mosso $\text{J} = \text{c.63}$

mp dynamic

Measure 29 ends.

32

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: grew out on the pas-ture slope, He was a man, it seemed:

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: grew be-yond the for - est. He was a man, it seemed:

Tenor (T) vocal line with instruction: breathe on "ah"

Bass (B) vocal line with instruction: breathe on "ah"

pianissimo (*p*) dynamic

poco più mosso $\text{J} = \text{c.63}$

mp dynamic

Measure 32 ends.

35

cresc. poco a poco

S — the two mov-ing stems, the short trunk, the two arm - branch-es,
cresc. poco a poco

A — the two mov-ing stems, the short trunk, the two arm - branch-es,

T —
8

B — *cresc. poco*

{ — *cresc. poco a poco*

39

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: "— and the head that's crowned by brown or gold grass,"

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: "— and the head that's crowned by brown or gold grass,"

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: "— and the head that's crowned by brown or gold grass,"

Bass (B) vocal line with continuous eighth-note wavy line.

39

42

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: "bearing a face _____ not _____ like the beaked face _____ of a bird,"

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: "bearing a face _____ not _____ like the beaked face _____ of a bird,"

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: "breath on "ah""

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: "ah _____"

42

45 *mp*

S more like a flow - er's.

A more like a flow - er's.

T *p*
ah

B *p*

{

45

poco più mosso $\text{♩} = \text{c.66}$

49 *pp*

S ah

A ah

T *p* 3
He car-ried a bur - den____ made of some cut branch bent while it was green,

B *p*
3 a bur - den____ made of some cut branch bent while it was green,

poco più mosso $\text{♩} = \text{c.66}$

{

49 3

52

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: "tight ah". Dynamics: *mp*, *p*. Measure 52.

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: "tight ah". Dynamics: *mp*, *p*. Measure 52.

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: "strands of a vine tight - stretched a - cross it.". Dynamics: *mp*, *p*. Measure 52.

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: "strands of a vine tight - stretched a - cross it.". Dynamics: *mp*, *p*. Measure 52.

Piano accompaniment. Measure 52.

55

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: "ah". Dynamics: *p*. Measure 55.

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: "ah". Dynamics: *p*. Measure 55.

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: "From this, when he touched it, and from his voice". Dynamics: *cresc. poco a poco*. Measure 55.

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: "From this, when he touched it, and from his voice". Dynamics: *cresc. poco a poco*. Measure 55.

Piano accompaniment. Measure 55.

Soprano (S) part:

A (Alto) part:

Tenor (T) part:

Bass (B) part:

57

ah _____

ah _____

came the rip - ple. _____ But now no long - er a

came the rip - ple. _____ But now no long - er a

57

poco a poco eccitando

59

Soprano (S) part:

mp *cresc. poco a poco*

(he had come near and stopped in my first shad - ow) ah

Alto (A) part:

mp *cresc. poco a poco*

(he had come near and stopped in my first shad - ow) ah

Tenor (T) part:

mp *cresc. poco a poco*

rip-ple ah it was a wave ³ that bathed me ³ as if

Bass (B) part:

mp *cresc. poco a poco*

rip-ple ah it was a wave ³ that bathed me ³ as if

poco a poco eccitando

mp *cresc. poco a poco*

3 3

61 *mf*

Soprano (S) vocal line:

Around me instead of
and a round me instead of
rain rose from below ah
rain rose from below ah

Alto (A) vocal line:

and a round me instead of
rain rose from below ah

Tenor (T) vocal line:

rain rose from below ah

Bass (B) vocal line:

rain rose from below ah

Piano accompaniment (bottom staff):

61

63 *p* *cresc. poco a poco* *3*

Soprano (S) vocal line:

Falling. (ng) And what I felt was no longer a dry
falling. (ng) And what I felt was no longer a dry

Alto (A) vocal line:

Falling. (ng) And what I felt was no longer a dry

Tenor (T) vocal line:

8

Bass (B) vocal line:

p

Piano accompaniment (bottom staff):

63 *p* *cresc. poco a poco* *3*

S 65 *ting - ling: I seemed to be sing-ing as he sang, ah _____*

A *ting - ling: I seemed to be sing-ing as he sang, ah _____*

T *I seemed to* *mp*

B

3 *3* *3*

(mp) *3*

67

Soprano (S) A (Alto) Tenor (T) Bass (B)

cresc. poco a poco

8 know what the lark knows; ah

mp *cresc. poco a poco*

all my sap was mount-ing toward the sun that by

cresc. poco a poco

69 $\text{♩} = \text{c.69}$ *mf* *poco rall.* *dim. poco a poco*

S the mist was ris - ing, — ah —

A *mf* *dim. poco a poco*

the grass was dry - ing, — ah —

T *mf* *dim. poco a poco*

B now had ris - en, — ah — yet my

$\text{♩} = \text{c.69}$ *poco rall.* *dim. poco a poco*

69

71 $\text{♩} = \text{c.66}$ ah — *p* —
ah — deep —

S *p* —
ah — deep —

A *p* —
deep —

T *p* —
deep —

B *dim. poco a poco* roots felt mu - sic — moist-en them deep un - der earth. — *p* —
3 3 3 3

$\text{♩} = \text{c.66}$

71

cresc.

Soprano (S) part:

74 un - der earth. He came still clos - er, _____
 ah _____ leaned on my

cresc. 3

Alto (A) part:

un - der earth. ah _____ leaned on my

cresc. 3

Tenor (T) part:

un - der earth. ah _____ leaned on my

cresc.

Bass (B) part:

He came still clos - er, _____

74

poco affrettando

Soprano (S) part:

the bark thrilled like a leaf still - fold - ed. , $\text{♩} = \text{c.69}$

trunk: ah _____ ah _____

mf

Alto (A) part:

trunk: ah _____ ah _____

mf

Tenor (T) part:

trunk: ah _____ ah _____

mf

Bass (B) part:

the bark thrilled like a leaf still fold - ed. ah _____ ah _____

mf

poco affrettando

Soprano (S) part:

the bark thrilled like a leaf still fold - ed. ah _____

mf

poco meno mosso ♩ = c.63

81

Soprano (S): Mu - sic! _____ ah _____ not

Alto (A): Mu - sic! _____ ah _____ There was no twig of me ah _____

Tenor (T): Mu - sic! _____ There was no twig of me _____

Bass (B): Mu - sic! _____

Rehearsal mark 81

83

Soprano (S): trem-bling with joy and fear. _____ dim. ah _____

Alto (A): _____ ah _____ ah _____

Tenor (T): _____ ah _____ ah _____

Bass (B): trem-bling with joy and fear. _____ ah _____

poco rall. p

Soprano (S): _____

Alto (A): _____

Tenor (T): _____

Bass (B): _____

poco rall. p

Rehearsal mark 83

86 faster, flowing $\text{♪} = \text{c.}200$

S

A

T

B

p

it was no long - er sounds on - ly that made the

Then as he sang no long - er sounds that made the

Then as he sang

it was no long - er sounds on - ly that made the

faster, flowing $\text{♪} = \text{c.}200$

86

89

S

A

T

B

mu - sic:

mu - sic: ah he spoke, and as no tree list - ens

he spoke and as no tree list - ens

mu - sic: ah he spoke, and as no tree list - ens

89

93

Soprano (S) vocal line:

I listened, and language came in - to my roots,

Alto (A) vocal line:

I listened, and language came in - to my roots,

Tenor (T) vocal line:

I listened, and language came in - to my roots,

Bass (B) vocal line:

out of the earth,

93

96

Soprano (S) vocal line:

in - to my bark, in - to the pores of my green - est shoots

Alto (A) vocal line:

in - to my bark, in - to the pores of my green - est shoots

Tenor (T) vocal line:

out of the air, in - to my green - est shoots

Bass (B) vocal line:

in - to my bark, in - to the pores of my green - est shoots

96

100

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: "gent - ly as dew". Dynamics: *p*, *p*, *mp*, *p*.

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: "gent - ly as dew and there was no word he sang oo". Dynamics: *p*, *mp*.

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: "gent - ly as dew but I knew its". Dynamics: *p*.

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: "gent - ly as dew". Dynamics: *p*.

Piano accompaniment in 8th-note chords.

100

104

Soprano (S) vocal line with dynamics: *pp*, *poco più mosso*, $\text{♩} = \text{c.72}$.

Alto (A) vocal line with dynamics: *pp*.

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: "mean - ing. (ng)" and "where sun and moon". Dynamics: *p*, *mp*.

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: "He told of jour - neys, of where sun and moon". Dynamics: *mp*.

Piano accompaniment in 8th-note chords.

104

107

T go while we stand in dark, ____ of an earth - jour - ney he dreamed _____

B go while we stand in dark, of an earth - jour - ney he dreamed _____

T 107

111 *he would take some day* *He told of the*

B *he would take some day deep - er than roots...* *He told of the*

T 111

115 *dreams of man, wars, pas - sions, grieves, and I, a*

B *dreams of man, wars, pas - sions, grieves, and I, a*

T 115

120

T tree, a tree, un - der - stood words— ah, it seemed my
B tree, un - der - stood words— ah, it seemed my

120

T thick bark would split like a sap - ling's that grew too fast in the
B thick bark would split like a sap - ling's that grew too fast in the

125

S Fire he sang, and
A Fire he sang, and

T spring— when a late frost wounds it. that trees fear,
B spring— when a late frost wounds it.

poco più mosso $\text{♩} = \text{c.} 80$

129

134

S I, a tree, _____ re - joiced in its flames. New buds_ broke forth

A I, a tree, _____ re - joiced in its flames. New buds_ broke forth

T a tree, _____ re - joiced. New buds_

B

137

S — from me though it was full sum - mer. _____

A — from me though it was full sum - mer. _____

T broke forth from me ah _____ As

B

full sum - mer. _____

140 *p*

S: ah _____ and fire, _____

A: ah _____ were both frost and fire, _____ its
p his lyre (p) (now I knew its name) _____ *mp*

T: though his lyre (mp) 4 (now I knew its name) _____ and fire, _____

B: ah _____ were both frost and fire, _____ its

140

143 *cresc.*

S: — its chords flamed up to the crown of me. I was seed a -

A: — chords flamed up to the crown of me. I was seed a -

T: — its chords flamed up to the crown of me. I was seed a -

B: — chords flamed up to the crown of me. I was seed a -

cresc.

143

147 $\text{J.} = \text{d}$

S

dim.

3

p

gain. I was fern in the swamp. I was coal.

A

dim.

3

p

gain. I was fern in the swamp. I was coal.

T

dim.

3

p

solo, quasi recit.

mf And at the

gain. I was fern in the swamp. I was coal.

B

dim.

3

p

gain. I was fern in the swamp. I was coal.

$\text{J.} = \text{d}$

dim.

3

p

subito $\text{J} = 63, \text{rubato}$

150

Soprano (S) vocal line.

Alto (A) vocal line.

Tenor (T) vocal line.

Bass (B) vocal line.

Chorus vocal line.

Text lyrics:

heart of my wood _____ (so close I was to be - com - ing man or god)

there was a kind of

(n) (n)

(tutti) *mp*

3

153

Soprano (S) vocal line.

Alto (A) vocal line: "si-lence, a kind of sick - ness, (n)" followed by a solo section.

Tenor (T) vocal line: "some-thing a - kin to what men call bore - dom..."

Bass (B) vocal line: silent.

153

156 **tempo giusto ♩ = c.72**

Soprano (S) vocal line.

Alto (A) vocal line.

Tenor (T) vocal line: "(m) It was then, when in the blaze of his pow'r that" followed by a tutti section.

Bass (B) vocal line: "It was then, when in the blaze of his pow'r that"

156 **tempo giusto ♩ = c.72**

159

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: "I thought I should fall my leng... (ng)"

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: "I thought I should fall my leng... (ng)"

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: "reached me and changed me I thought I should fall my length, that the"

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: "reached me and changed me I thought I should fall my leng... (ng)"

Piano accompaniment with bass line and chords.

159

163

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: "to" (mp)

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: "to" (mp)

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: "sing - er be - gan to leave me. (ng) oh" (p)

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: "Slow - ly moved from my noon sha - dow" (mp)

Piano accompaniment with bass line and chords.

163

$\text{J} = \text{J.}$

168

Soprano (S): o - pen light, _____

Alto (A): o - pen light, _____

Tenor (T): mp
words _____ leap - ing and danc - ing o - ver his

Bass (B): p

168

171

Soprano (S): $\text{J.} = \text{J.}$ mp *ritard.* riv - er - y sweep of lyre - tones be - com - ing slow - ly a - gain 3 *dim.*

Alto (A): mp 3 riv - er - y sweep of lyre - tones be - com - ing slow - ly a - gain 3 *dim.*

Tenor (T): shoul - ders ah.

Bass (B): back to me ah. *dim.* ah _____

171

175 $\text{J} = \text{c.63}$

S $\text{3} \frac{4}{4}$ *pp* *stringendo*
rip-ple. _____ (n)

A $\text{3} \frac{4}{4}$ *pp*
rip-ple. _____ (n)

T $\text{3} \frac{4}{4}$ *p* *spaventando* *cresc.*
And I in ter - ror _____ but not in doubt of

B $\text{3} \frac{4}{4}$ *p* *pp* *cresc.*

$\text{J} = \text{c.63}$ *stringendo*

S $\text{3} \frac{4}{4}$ *p* *pp* *p* *cresc.*

B $\text{3} \frac{4}{4}$

175

178 $\text{J} = 76-80$

S $\text{3} \frac{4}{4}$ *mf* *spaventando* *f* *molto espressivo*
in an-guish, in haste, _____ wrenched from the earth

A $\text{3} \frac{4}{4}$ *mf* *spaventando* *f* *molto espressivo*
in an-guish, in haste, _____ wrenched from the earth

T $\text{3} \frac{4}{4}$ *mf* *p sub.*
what I must do (n)

B $\text{3} \frac{4}{4}$ *mf* *f* *molto espressivo*
wrenched from the earth root af - ter

$\text{J} = 76-80$

S $\text{3} \frac{4}{4}$ *mf*

B $\text{3} \frac{4}{4}$

178

181

S root af - ter root, the soil heav-ing and crack-ing, the moss tear-ing a - sun - der,

A root af - ter root, the soil heav-ing and crack-ing, the moss tear-ing a - sun - der,

T *p*

B root, the soil heav-ing and crack-ing, the moss tear-ing a - sun - der, root af - ter

181

poco meno mosso $\text{J} = \text{c.72}$

S root af - ter root, root af - ter root, *mp* root af - ter root, root af - ter root,

A root af - ter root, root af - ter... and be - hind me the oth - ers: *mf*

T *p*

B root, root af - ter root, root af - ter root, root af - ter root, root af - ter

poco meno mosso $\text{J} = \text{c.72}$

poco più mosso ♩ = c.76

189

S root af - ter root, root af - ter root, In the for - est they too __

A — my bro-thers for - got - ten since dawn.

T

B root, root af - ter root, root af - ter root, In the for - est they __

poco più mosso ♩ = c.76

189

193

S — had heard, and were pull - ing their roots in pain, (n) __

A pp had heard, and were pull - ing, and were pull - ing their roots in

T

B — too had heard, and were pull - ing, pull - ing their roots in pain.

193

197

S — out of a thou - sand years' lay'rs _____ of dead leaves, *mf*

A pain, (n) out of a thou - sand years' lay'rs _____ of dead leaves, *mf*

T

B (n) out of a thou - sand years' lay'rs _____ of dead

197

201

S dead leaves, _____ roll - ing the *mf* 3

A roll - ing the rocks a - way, break ing them - *mf* 3

T oh ah

B leaves, roll - ing the rocks a - way, break ing them-selves out *mf* 3

201

poco meno mosso $\text{J} = \text{c.72}$ *f*

205

S rocks a - way. You would have thought we would lose the

A selves out of their depths. You would have thought we would lose the

T You would have thought we would lose the

B — of their depths. You would have thought we would lose the

poco meno mosso $\text{J} = \text{c.72}$

f

3

205 3 3

poco più mosso $\text{J} = \text{c.76}$ *p*

208

S sound of the lyre, (ng)

A sound of the lyre, of the sing-ing (ng)

T sound of the lyre, of the sing-ing so dreadful the storm-sounds were, where

B sound of the lyre, so dreadful the storm - sounds were, where

poco più mosso $\text{J} = \text{c.76}$

mf *mf* molto espressivo *mf* molto espressivo

3 3 3

208 3 3

212

Soprano (S) vocal line.

Alto (A) vocal line.

Tenor (T) vocal line with three-measure rhythmic patterns marked with '3' over each measure.

Bass (B) vocal line with three-measure rhythmic patterns marked with '3' over each measure.

8 there was no storm, no storm, no wind but the rush,(sh) the rush of our branch - es

there was no storm, _____ no wind but the rush, the rush, the rush of our branch - es

212

216

Soprano (S) vocal line with dynamic markings: *rall.*, *mf*, *> mp*.

Alto (A) vocal line.

Tenor (T) vocal line with three-measure rhythmic patterns marked with '3' over each measure, dynamic markings: *mp*, *mf*, *> mp*, and lyrics: mov - ing,(ng) our trunks breast-ing the air. (breathe out) But the mu - sic! _____

Bass (B) vocal line with three-measure rhythmic patterns marked with '3' over each measure, dynamic markings: *mp*, *mf*, *> mp*, and lyrics: mov - ing,(ng) our trunks breast-ing the air. (breathe out) the mus - ic! _____

J = c.69

222

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: "The mu - sic reached u(s). (breathe out) (ss)"

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: "The mu - sic reached u(s). (breathe out) (ss)"

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: "The mu - sic reached us, reached u(s). (breathe out) (ss)"

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: "ah (breathe out)"

poco rall.

222

228 subito ♩ = c.84

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: "rus - tling our leaves in"

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: "rus - tling our leaves in"

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: "stum - bling ov - er our own roots, stum(m) - stum(m) -"

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: "Clum - si - ly, clum - si - ly, stum - bling ov - er our own roots, stum(m) - stum(m) -"

mp

3

228

232

S

A

T

B

232

236

S

A

T

B

236

241 **lightly**

S

We learned to dance, for he would stop, where the ground was flat,

A

We learned to dance, for he would stop, where the ground was flat,

T

We learned to dance, for he would stop, where the ground was flat,

B

down. to dance, we

lightly

241

245

S

— dance, and words he said taught us to leap,

A

— dance, and words he said taught us to leap,

T

— dance, and words he said taught us to leap,

B

learned to dance, — dance, — dance, — dance,

{

245

legato

249

S taught us to leap and to wind in and out, in and out, in and out a -

A taught us to leap and to wind in and out, in and out, in and out a -

T taught us to leap and to wind in and out, in and out, in and out a -

B — dance, dance, to wind in and out, in and out, in and out a -

legato

249

254

S round one an - oth - er, a - round one an - oth - er in fig - ures the

A round one an - oth - er, a - round one an - oth - er in fig - ures the

T round one an - oth - er, a - round one an - oth - er in fig - ures the

B round one an - oth - er, a - round one an - oth - er in fig - ures the

254

259

Soprano (S) lyrics: lyre's mea-sure de - signed. The sing-er

Alto (A) lyrics: lyre's mea-sure de - signed. The sing-er

Tenor (T) lyrics: lyre's mea-sure de - signed. The sing-er

Bass (B) lyrics: lyre's mea-sure de - signed, dance, dance, dance, dance,

259

263

Soprano (S) lyrics: laughed till he wept to see us, he was so glad, ah, __

Alto (A) lyrics: laughed till he wept to see us, he was so glad, ah, __

Tenor (T) lyrics: 8 laughed till he wept to see us, he was so glad, ah, __

Bass (B) lyrics: dance, dance, dance, dance, dance, ah __ dance, __

263

267

Soprano (S) *p*
ah. _____ we came to this

Alto (A) *p*
ah. _____ At sun-set we came, we came to this

Tenor (T) *p*
ah. _____ At sun-set we came _____ to this
cresc.

Bass (B)
dance, _____ dance, dance, ah. _____ At sun-set we came _____ to this

p
267

274

Soprano (S) *mf* *dim.*
place, this knoll with its an - cient grove _____ that was bare grass

Alto (A) *mf* *3 dim.*
place, this knoll with its an - ancient grove _____ that was bare grass

Tenor (T) *mf* *3 dim.*
place, this knoll with its an - ancient grove _____ that was bare grass

Bass (B) *mf* *dim.*
place, this knoll with its an - ancient grove _____ that was bare grass

mf *dim.*
274

poco meno mosso $\text{♩} = \text{c.76}$

279

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: then. (n) In the last light of that day ah _____

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: then. (n) his song became fare-

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: then. (n)

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: then. (n)

poco meno mosso $\text{♩} = \text{c.76}$

Piano accompaniment with bass line and chords.

279

284

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: _____ He stilled our long-ing. (ng) _____

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: well. He stilled our long-ing. (ng) _____

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: _____ He stilled our long-ing. (ng) _____

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: _____ He stilled our long-ing. He sang our sun-dried roots back in - to

Piano accompaniment with bass line and chords.

284

289

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: "all - night rain" (cresc.)

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: "wa - tered them: (m)" (mp), "all - night rain, all - night" (cresc.)

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: "wa - tered them: (m)" (mp), "all - night rain," (cresc.)

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: "earth, (m)" (mp), "all - night rain" (cresc.)

289

poco meno mosso $\text{J} = \text{c.72}$

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: "of mu" (mp), "sic so qui - et, so" (mp)

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: "rain of mu" (mp), "sic so qui - et," (mp)

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: "rain of mu" (mp), "sic so qui - et," (mp)

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: "of mu" (mp), "sic so qui - et," (mp)

poco meno mosso $\text{J} = \text{c.72}$

294

300

Soprano (S) vocal line:

dim. *p* *pp*

qui - et we could al - most not hear in the moon - less dark.

Alto (A) vocal line:

dim. *p* *pp*

qui - et, ah not hear it in the moon - less dark.

Tenor (T) vocal line:

dim. *p*

qui - et, ah not hear in... *breathe on "ah"*

Bass (B) vocal line:

dim. *p*

qui - et, ah not hear in moon... (n) *breathe on "ah"*

Piano accompaniment (bottom staff):

dim. *p*

poco meno mosso $\text{J} = \text{c.69}$

315

Soprano (S) vocal line with lyrics: We have stood here since, _____ in our new life. _____

Alto (A) vocal line: _____

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: We have stood here since, _____ in our new life. _____

Bass (B) vocal line: _____

poco meno mosso $\text{J} = \text{c.69}$

315

319

Soprano (S) vocal line: _____

Alto (A) vocal line with lyrics: wait - ed. — He does not re - turn. (n) _____

Tenor (T) vocal line with lyrics: It is said he made his

Bass (B) vocal line with lyrics: wait - ed. — He does not re - turn. (n) _____ It is said he made his

319

323

S - and lost ³ what he sought.

A - and lost ³ what he sought. It is said they

T earth - jour - ney, ah

B earth - jour - ney, ah It is said they

{ 323

327

S and cut up his limbs for fire - wood. ^(no breath) And it is said his head still

A felled him (m) for fire - wood. ^(no breath) And it is said his head still

T and cut up his limbs for fire - wood. ^(no breath) And it is said his head still

B felled him (m) for fire - wood. ^(no breath) And it is said his head still

{ 327

331

Soprano (S) vocal line: Dynamics p, mp, p; Articulations 3, 3, 3.

Alto (A) vocal line: Dynamics p, mp, p; Articulations 3, 3, 3.

Tenor (T) vocal line: Dynamics p, mp, p; Articulations 3, 3, 3.

Bass (B) vocal line: Dynamics p, p; Articulations 3, 3, 3.

Chorus vocal line: Dynamics 3, 3, 3.

Text: sang, (ng) — sing-ing, — sing-ing. (ng) —
sang, (ng) — sing-ing, — sing-ing. (ng) —
sang, (ng) — sing-ing, — sing-ing. (ng) —
sang and was swept out to sea sing-ing. (ng) —

334

Soprano (S) vocal line: Dynamics pp, p, pp; Articulations 3, 3, 3.

Alto (A) vocal line: Dynamics pp, p, pp; Articulations 3, 3, 3.

Tenor (T) vocal line: Dynamics pp, p, pp; Articulations 3, 3, 3.

Bass (B) vocal line: Dynamics pp, p, pp; Articulations 3, 3, 3.

Chorus vocal line: Dynamics 3, 3, 3.

Text: Per - haps he will not re - turn. (n) —
But what we have lived comes
Per - haps he will not re - turn. (n) —
But what we have lived comes

338

Soprano (S) vocal line:

We see more. We feel, as our rings in - crease,

Alto (A) vocal line:

back to us.— We see more. We feel, as our rings in - crease,

Tenor (T) vocal line:

We see more. We feel, as our rings in - crease,

Bass (B) vocal line:

back to us.— We see more. We feel, as our rings in - crease, some -

cresc. poco a poco

338

342 *poco stringendo* ————— $\text{♩} = \text{c.76}$

Soprano (S) vocal line:

some-thing that lifts our branch - es, that stretch-es our furth - est leaf - tips

Alto (A) vocal line:

some-thing that lifts our branch - es, that stretch-es our furth - est leaf - tips

Tenor (T) vocal line:

some-thing that lifts our branch - es, that stretch-es our furth - est leaf - tips

Bass (B) vocal line:

- thing lifts, _____ stretch - es fur - - thest

poco stringendo ————— $\text{♩} = \text{c.76}$

342

poco rall.

♩ = c.72

346

S fur - ther, fur - ther. ah _____ The wind, the birds, _____

A fur - ther, fur - ther. ah _____

T fur - ther, fur - ther. ah _____ The wind, the birds, _____

B fur - ther. _____

poco rall.

♩ = c.72

346

352

S but clear - er, re - call-ing our ag - o - ny, _____ and the

A do not sound poor - er but clear - er, re - call-ing our ag - o - ny, _____ and the

T but clear - er, re - call-ing our ag - o - ny, _____ and the

B do not sound poor - er but clear - er, re - call-ing our ag - o - ny, _____ and the

352

357

Soprano (S) vocal line: way we danced. Ah.

Alto (A) vocal line: way we danced. Ah, the mu - sic,

Tenor (T) vocal line: way we danced. Ah, the mu - sic,

Bass (B) vocal line: way we danced, we danced, we danced. The mu - sic, ah

Piano accompaniment (measures 357-362): The piano part consists of eighth-note chords in the right hand and sixteenth-note patterns in the left hand, primarily in the key of A major (three sharps).

363

Soprano (S) vocal line: mu - sic, mu sic! breathe out on "ah"

Alto (A) vocal line: ah mu sic! breathe out on "ah"

Tenor (T) vocal line: ah mu sic! breathe out on "ah"

Bass (B) vocal line: mu - sic, mu sic! breathe out on "ah"

Piano accompaniment (measures 363-368): The piano part features sustained notes and chords, with dynamic markings pp (pianissimo) and ff (fortissimo) indicating volume changes.