



JOHN TARTAGLIA

MY LIFE CLOSED TWICE

*for Mezzo-Soprano and Viola*

Text by Emily Dickinson



  
BEADY EYES PUBLISHING  
[www.carolbarnett.net](http://www.carolbarnett.net)

JOHN TARTAGLIA  
MY LIFE CLOSED TWICE

*for Mezzo-Soprano and Viola*

Text by Emily Dickinson

Premiered January, 2000, by Judith Cloud, mezzo-soprano, and John Tartaglia, viola,  
as part of the Escape to Create Program in Seaside, FL

c. 5 minutes

PROGRAM NOTE:

*My Life Closed Twice* was written during my residence at Seaside, FL, as a fellow in the Seaside Institute's Escape to Create program.

TEXT:

My life closed twice before its close;  
It yet remains to see  
If Immortality unveil  
A third event to me,  
So huge, so hopeless to conceive,  
As these that twice befell.  
Parting is all we know of heaven,  
And all we need of hell.

Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

# My Life Closed Twice...

Emily Dickinson

John Tartaglia

for Mezzo-soprano and Viola

[ to Carol ]

Assai moderato

$\text{♩} = 69$

The musical score is written for Mezzo-soprano and Viola. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked 'Assai moderato' with a quarter note equal to 69 beats per minute. The score is divided into systems, with measure numbers 1, 5, 9, 13, and 17 indicated at the start of each system. The lyrics are: 'My life closed twice be-fore its close be-fore its close It yet re-mains to see'. Performance instructions include dynamics such as *p* (piano), *f* (forte), *poco piú f*, and *piú f*, as well as *dimin.* (diminuendo). Viola parts are marked with a 'v' above the notes. The score concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

21 *p* *a Tempo* *mf* *v* *sf*

If im - mor - tal - i - ty un - veil un -

25 *v* *sul IV*

veil a third e - vent a third e - vent for

29 *mf* *v* *poco sf* *più lento* *p* *sul III*

me

33 *p* quietly *a Tempo* *p* *quietly*

Ah ah

37 *poco f* *v*

ah ah ah

a Tempo

41

ah my life closed twice so huge so

*p* *pp* *pp*

*a Tempo*

45

hope-less to con-ceive as these that twice be-fell

*sf poco* *alla corda* *mf*

49

that twice that twice be-fell Ah

*mf* *pp* *cresc.*

*pizz.* *arco*

53

part - ing part - ing part - ing is all we

*f* *p* *f*

57

know is all we know

*f*

allargando

61

of hea - ven of hea - ven and

*f* *p subito*

*v allargando*

*p subito*

65

all we need of hell

*p* *sfmf* *a Tempo*

*a Tempo*

*p* *mf*

69

73

*v* *mf* *molto allargando* *dimin.*

76

Lento *p*

Lento all we know of hea - ven

*pp* *sfz* *p*

80

dimin. . . . . a niente