

Reginald Unterseher

If You Can Read This

two mixed choruses and mixed septet



www.reginaldunterseher.com

IF YOU CAN READ THIS

[turn back]

[death] [horizon to horizon] [bedrock to sky]

[death] [river] [indecipherable]

[death] [dust] [eyes]

[father and mother] [love?] [indecipherable] [horizon to horizon]
[bedrock to sky]

[plume/cloud] [indecipherable] [death] [blooming] [generations]

[indecipherable] [embrace (reaching out?)(pushing away?)] [time passing]

[planet (or atom?)]

[traveler] [death] [turn back]

Kathleen Flenniken

from "Plume," University of Washington Press, 2012

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Two SATB choruses, SSAATBB Septet

REGINALD UNTERSEHER
9 January 2014

The musical score is written for a SATB chorus and an SSAATBB septet. It consists of 14 staves, each with a vocal part. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 6/8. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 54, and the initial dynamic is *mp*. The score includes various dynamics such as *mf*, *f*, *mp*, *p*, and *pp*. There are also performance instructions like *mf* < and *f* >. The lyrics include "[turn back]", "[death]", and "[ho-]". The score is arranged in a system with 14 staves, each with a vocal part. The parts are: Soprano-Left, Alto-Left, Tenor-Left, Bass-Left, Soprano1-Center, Soprano2-Center, Alto1-Center, Alto2-Center, Tenor-Center, Baritone-Center, Bass-Center, Soprano-Right, Alto-Right, Tenor-Right, and Bass-Right. The lyrics are: [turn back], [death], [death], [death], [turn back], [turn back], [death], [death], [turn back], [turn back], [death], [death], [turn back], [turn back], [death], [death].

15

S. *pp* *f* [death]

A. *pp* *f* [death]

T. *pp* *f* [death]

B. *pp* *f* [death]

15

S. *mf* *f* [bed-rock to sky] [death]

S. *mf* *f* [bed-rock to sky] [death]

A. *mf* *mf* *mf* *f* [ho-ri-zon to ho - ri - zon] [ho - ri - zon to ho - ri - zon] [bed-rock to sky] [death]

A. *mf* *mf* *f* ri-zon to ho-ri-zon] [ho - ri - zon to ho-ri - zon] [ho - ri - zon to ho-ri - zon] [death]

T. *mf* *mf* *f* [bed-rock to sky] [bed-rock to sky] [death]

Bar. *mf* *f* [bed-rock to sky] [death]

B. *mf* *f* [bed-rock to sky] [death]

15

S. *pp* *f* [death]

A. *pp* *f* [death]

T. *pp* *f* [death]

B. *pp* *f* [death]

22

S. *p*

A. *p*

T. *p*

B. *p*

22

S. *p* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

[ri - ver] [ri - ver] [ri - ver] [ri - ver] [ri - ver] [ri - ver]

S. *p* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

[ri - ver] [ri - ver] [ri - ver] [ri - ver] [ri - ver] [ri - ver]

A. *p* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

[ri - ver] [ri - ver] [ri - ver] [ri - ver]

A. *p* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

[ri - ver][ri - ver] [ri - ver][ri - ver] [ri - ver][ri - ver]

T. *p*

[in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble] [in-de

Bar. *p*

[in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble] [in-de

B. *p*

[in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble] [in-de

22

S. *p*

A. *p*

T. *p*

B. *p*

29

S. *f* *pp*
[death]

A. *f* *pp*
[death]

T. *f* *pp*
[death]

B. *f* *pp*
[death]

29

S. *mp* *mp*
[ri - ver] [ri - ver]

S. *mp* *mf*
[ri - ver] [dust]

A. *mp* *mf*
[ri - - ver] [ri - ver] [dust] [dust]

A. *mp* *mf*
- ver] [ri - - ver] [dust]

T. *mf*
ciph-er-a-ble[in-de-ciph-er-a-ble]

Bar. *mf*
ciph-er-a-ble[in-de-ciph-er-a-ble] [eyes]

B. *mf*
ciph-er-a-ble[in-de-ciph-er-a-ble] [eyes]

29

S. *f* *pp*
[death]

A. *f* *pp*
[death]

T. *f* *pp*
[death]

B. *f* *pp*
[death]

37 $\text{♩} = 56$
poco più mosso

S. $\text{♩} = 56$
poco più mosso

A.

T.

B.

removed for security, thanks for understanding

37 *poco più mosso*

S. *poco più mosso*

A.

T.

B.

45

S. *mf* [bed - rock to sky] *mf* [bed-rock to

A. *mf* [ho - ri - zon to ho - ri - zon] *mf* [ho-ri - zon to ho -

T. *mf* [ho-ri - zon to ho-ri - zon]

B. *mf* [bed - rock to sky] *mf* [bed-rock to

45

S. *mp* [love?] *mp* [love?]

S. *mp* [love?] *mp* [love?]

A. *mf* ciph-er-a ble[in-de-ciph-er-a ble] *mf* [in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble] *mf* [in-de-

A. *mf* ciph-er-a ble[in-de-ciph-er-a ble] *mf* [in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble] *mf* [in-de-

T. *f* [fa - ther and mo - ther] *mp* [fa - ther and mo - ther] *f* [fa - ther and mo - ther] *mp* [fa - ther and mo - ther]

Bar. *f* [fa - ther and mo - ther] *mp* [fa - ther and mo - ther] *f* [fa - ther and mo - ther] *mp* [fa - ther and mo - ther]

B. *f* [fa - ther and mo - ther] *mp* [fa - ther and mo - ther] *f* [fa - ther and mo - ther] *mp* [fa - ther and mo - ther]

45

S. *mf* [bed-rock to sky]

A. *mf* [ho - ri - zon to ho - ri - zon] *mf* [ho - ri - zon to ho-ri - zon] *mf* [ho -

T. *mf* [ho-ri - zon to ho-ri - zon]

B. *mf* [bed - rock to sky] *mf* [bed-rock to sky]

♩. = 58

brassy,

non vibrato

poco piu mosso

49

S. *mf* sky] [bed - rock to sky] /cloud] /cloud] *f*

A. *mf* ri - zon] [ho - ri - zon to ho - ri - zon] /cloud] /cloud] *f* brassy, non vibrato

T. *mf* [ho - ri - zon to ho - ri - zon] [plume/] [plume/] *f* brassy, non vibrato *sfzpp* *f*

B. *mf* sky] [bed - rock to sky] [plume/] [plume/] *f* brassy, non vibrato *sfzpp* *f*

49

S. *mp* [love?] [in - de] *mf* <

S. *mp* [love?] [in - de] *mf* <

A. ciph - er - a - ble] [in - de - ciph - er - a - ble] [in - de] *mf* <

A. ciph - er - a - ble] [in - de - ciph - er - a - ble] [in - de] *mf* <

T. *f* [fa - ther and mo - ther] [in - de] *mf* <

Bar. *f* [fa - ther and mo - ther] [in - de] *mf* <

B. *f* [fa - ther and mo - ther] [in - de] *mf* <

brassy, non vibrato
poco piu mosso

49

S. *mf* [bed - rock to sky] /cloud] /cloud] *f*

A. *mf* ri - zon to ho - ri - zon] [ho - ri - zon to ho - ri - zon] /cloud] /cloud] *f* brassy, non vibrato

T. *mf* [ho - ri - zon to ho - ri - zon] [plume/] [plume/] *f* brassy, non vibrato *sfzpp* *f*

B. *mf* [bed - rock to sky] [plume/] [plume/] *f* brassy, non vibrato *sfzpp* *f*

55 *f* *ff poco piu mosso* $\text{♩} = 60$

S. *f* *ff*
/cloud] /cloud] [death]

A. *f* *ff*
/cloud] /cloud] [death]

T. *sfz p* *f* *sfz p* *f* *ff*
[plume/ [plume/ [death]

B. *sfz p* *f* *sfz p* *f* *ff*
[plume/ [plume/ [death]

55 *mf* *poco piu mosso*

S. *mf* *mf*
ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble] [in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble]

S. *mf* *mf*
ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble] [in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble]

A. *mf* *mf*
ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble] [in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble]

A. *mf* *mf*
ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble] [in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble]

T. *mf* *mf*
ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble] [in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble]

Bar. *mf* *mf*
ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble] [in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble]

B. *mf* *mf*
ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble] [in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble]

55 *f* *f* *ff poco piu mosso*

S. *f* *f* *ff*
/cloud] /cloud] [death]

A. *f* *f* *ff*
/cloud] /cloud] [death]

T. *sfz p* *f* *sfz p* *f* *ff*
[plume/ [plume/ [death]

B. *sfz p* *f* *sfz p* *f* *ff*
[plume/ [plume/ [death]

61 *ff* *ff* *poco piu mosso* *mp*

S. [death] [death] [bloom -

A. [death] [death] [bloom -

T. [death] [death] [bloom -

B. [death] [death] [bloom -

removed for security, thanks for understanding

61 *ff* *ff* *poco piu mosso* *mp*

S. [death] [death] [death] [bloom - - - ing]

A. [death] [death] [death] [bloom - - - ing]

T. [death] [death] [death] [bloom - - - ing]

B. [death] [death] [death] [bloom - - - ing]

72

S. *mf* - - - ing] [bloom - - - ing] [bloom - - -

A. - - - ing] [bloom - - - ing] [bloom - - -

T. *mf* - - - ing] [bloom - - - ing] [bloom - - -

B. - - - ing] [bloom - - - ing] [bloom - - -

72

S. *mf* [gen-er - a - tions] *mp* < [in-de-ciph-er-a- ble]

S. *mf* [gen-er - a - tions] *mp* < [in-de-ciph-er-a- ble]

A. *mf* [gen-er - a - tions] *mp* < [in-de

A. *mf* [gen-er - a - tions]

T. *mf* [gen-er - a - tions]

Bar. *mf* [gen-er - a - tions]

B. *mf* [gen-er - a - tions]

72

S. *mp* [bloom - - - ing] *mp* [gen - er -

A. *mp* [bloom - - - ing] *mp* [bloom - - -

T. *mp* [bloom - - - ing] *mp* [bloom - - -

B. *mp* [bloom - - - ing] *mp* [bloom - - -

80

S. *mf* ing] [gen - er - a - tions]

A. ing]

T. ing]

B. ing]

80

S. *mf* [em - brace] *mp* [in - de - ciph - er - a - ble]

S. *mf* [em - brace] *mp* [in - de - ciph - er - a - ble]

A. ciph - er - a - ble] *mf* (reach - ing out?) *mp* [in - de -

A. *mp* [in - de - ciph - er - a - ble] *mf* (reach - ing out?)

T. *mp* [in - de - ciph - er - a - ble]

Bar. *mp* [in - de - ciph - er - a - ble]

B. *mp* [in - de - ciph - er - a - ble]

80

S. - a - tions] [gen - er - a - tions]

A. ing]

T. ing]

B. ing]

83

S. *mf* [gen - er - a - tions] [gen - er -]

A. [bloom - - - - -]

T. [bloom - - - - -]

B. [bloom - - - - -]

83

S. [em - brace] [em -] *mf*

S. [em - brace] [em -] *mf*

A. ciph-er - a - ble] (reach - ing out?) [in - de -] *mp*

A. [in - de - ciph - er - a - ble] (reach - ing out?) *mp*

T. (push - ing a - way?) [in - de - ciph - er - a - ble] (push - ing a - way?) *mf*

Bar. (push - ing a - way?) [in - de - ciph - er - a - ble] (push - ing a - way?) *mf*

B. (push - ing a - way?) [in - de - ciph - er - a - ble][in - de - ciph - er - a - ble][in - de -] *mp*

83

S. [gen - er - a - tions] [gen - er -]

A. [bloom - - - - -]

T. [bloom - - - - -]

B. [bloom - - - - -]

86

S. *ra - - tions] [gen - - er - - a - - tions]*

A. *- - ing] [bloom - - - - -*

T. *- - ing] [bloom - - - - -*

B. *- - ing] [bloom - - - - -*

86

S. *brace [in-de-ciph-er - a-ble] [in-de-ciph-er - a-ble]*

S. *brace [in-de-ciph-er - a-ble] [in-de-*

A. *ciph-er - a-ble] (reach - ing out?) [in-de-ciph-er - a-ble]*

A. *[in-de-ciph-er - a-ble] (reach - ing out?) [in-de-*

T. *(push - ing a - way?) [in-de-ciph-er - a-ble] (push - ing a -*

Bar. *(push - ing a - way?) [in-de-ciph-er - a-ble] (push - ing [in way?])*

B. *ciph-er - a-ble] [in-de-ciph-er - a-ble] (push - ing a - way?)*

86

S. *-a - - tions] [gen - - er - - a - - tions]*

A. *- - ing] [bloom - - - - -*

T. *- - ing] [bloom - - - - -*

B. *- - ing] [bloom - - - - -*

89

S. [gen - er - - a - - tions] [time pass - ing

A. - - - - - ing] [time pass - ing

T. - - - - - ing] [time pass - ing

B. - - - - - ing] [time pass - ing

89

S. [em - brace

S. ciph-er-a-ble] [em - brace

A. [in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble]

A. ciph-er-a-ble] [in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble]

T. way?)] [in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble] [pla - net [pla - net

Bar. [in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble] [pla - net [pla - net

B. [in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble][in-de-ciph-er-a-ble] (or a- tom?) (or

89

S. [gen - er - - a - - tions] [time pass - ing

A. - - - - - ing] [time pass - ing

T. - - - - - ing] [time pass - ing

B. - - - - - ing] [time pass - ing

95

S.

A.

T.

B.

95

S.

 S.

A.

 A.

T.

 Bar.

B.

95

S.

A.

T.

B.

101

S. *f* [tra - ve - ler] [tra - ve - ler] [tra - ve - ler] [death]

A. *f* [tra - ve - ler] [tra - ve - ler] [tra - ve - ler] [death]

T. *f* [tra - ve - ler] [tra - ve - ler] [tra - ve - ler] [death]

B. *f* [tra - ve - ler] [tra - ve - ler] [tra - ve - ler] [death]

101

S. a - tom?) (or_ a - tom?) (or_ a - tom?) [tra-ve-ler]

S. (or_a - tom?) (or_a - tom?) (or_a - tom?) [tra-ve-ler]

A. [pla - net (or a- tom?) [tra-ve-ler]

A. [plan - et (or a- tom?) [tra-ve-ler]

T. *mp* [pla - net] *mp* [pla - net] *mf* (or a- tom?) *f* [tra-ve-ler]

Bar. *mp* [pla - net] *mp* [pla - net] *mf* (or a- tom?) *f* [tra-ve-ler]

B. *mf* a- tom?) (or a- tom?) (or a- tom?) (or a- tom?) *f* [tra-ve-ler]

101

S. *f* [tra - ve - ler] [tra - ve - ler] [death]

A. *f* [tra - ve - ler] [tra - ve - ler] [death]

T. *f* [tra - ve - ler] [tra - ve - ler] [death]

B. *f* [tra - ve - ler] [tra - ve - ler] [death]

108

S. [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death]

A. [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death]

T. [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death]

B. [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death]

ff *f* *mf* *mf-*

108

S. [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death]

S. [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death]

A. [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death]

A. [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death]

T. [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death]

Bar. [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death]

B. [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death]

ff *f* *mf* *mf-*

108

S. [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death]

A. [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death]

T. [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death]

B. [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death] [death]

ff *f* *mf* *mf-*

122 *mp* *mp-* *p* = 48

S. [death] [death] [turn back]

A. [death] [death] [turn back]

T. [death] [death] [turn back]

B. [death] [death] [death]

122 *mp* *mp-* *pp*

S. [death] [death] [turn back]

S. [death] [death] [turn back]

A. [death] [death] [turn back]

A. [death] [death] [turn back]

T. [death] [death] [death]

Bar. [death] [death] [death]

B. [death] [death] [death]

122 *mp* *mp-* *p*

S. [death] [death] [turn back]

A. [death] [death] [turn back]

T. [death] [death] [turn back]

B. [death] [death] [death]

poco rit.

131 *p*

S. [turn back] [turn back]

A. [turn back] [turn back]

T. [turn back] [turn back]

B. [death]

131

S. [turn back] [turn back]

S. [turn back] [turn back]

A. [turn back] [turn back]

A. [turn back] [turn back]

T. [death]

Bar. [death]

B. [death]

131 *p*

S. [turn back] [turn back]

A. [turn back] [turn back]

T. [turn back] [turn back]

B. [death]